



EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE AVENGERS

AARON • CASELLI • KEITH

"You'd be hard-pressed to find a more fun and frantic team-up than Aaron's latest."

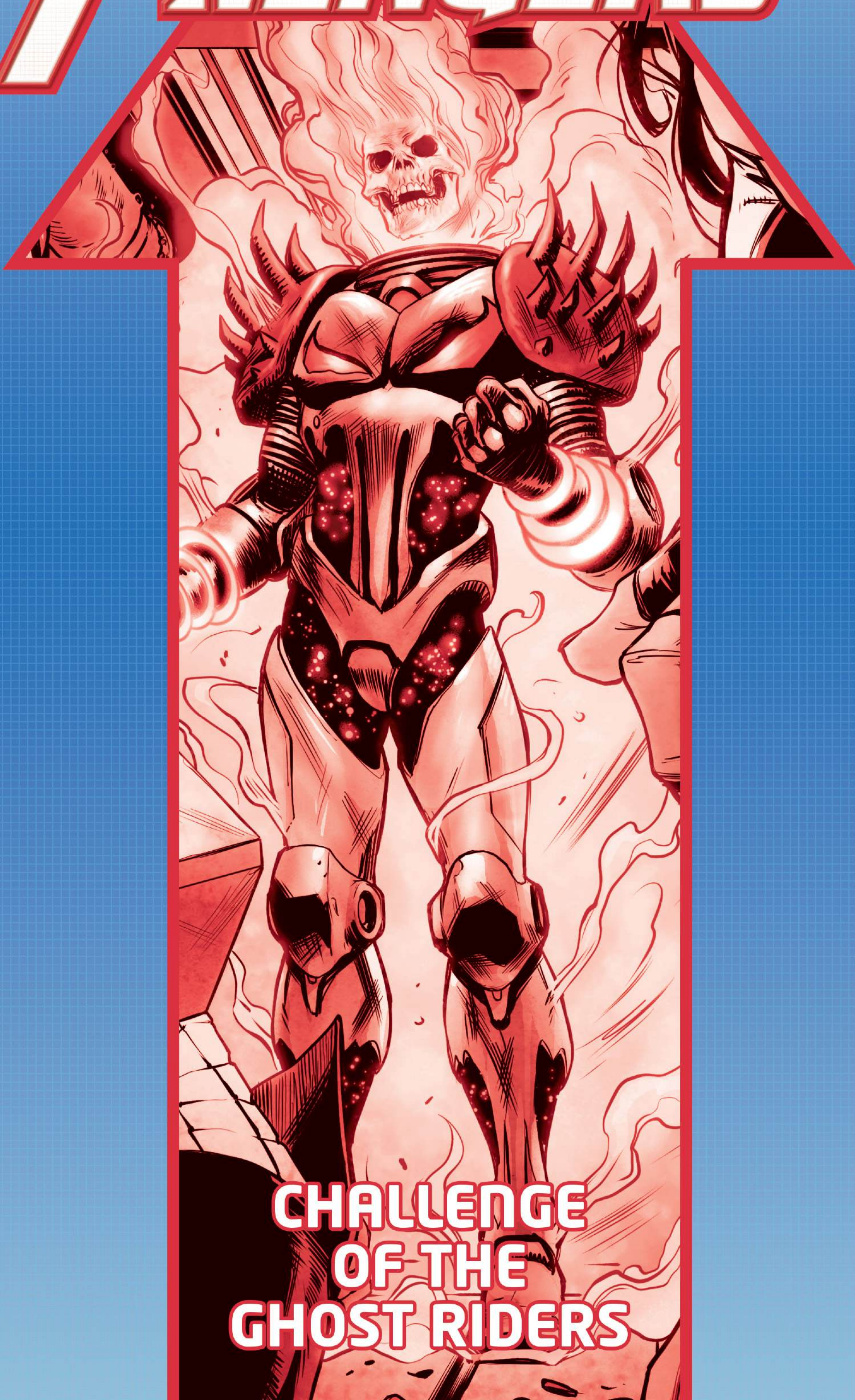
— ComicBook.com

CHALLENGE OF THE GHOSTRIDERS



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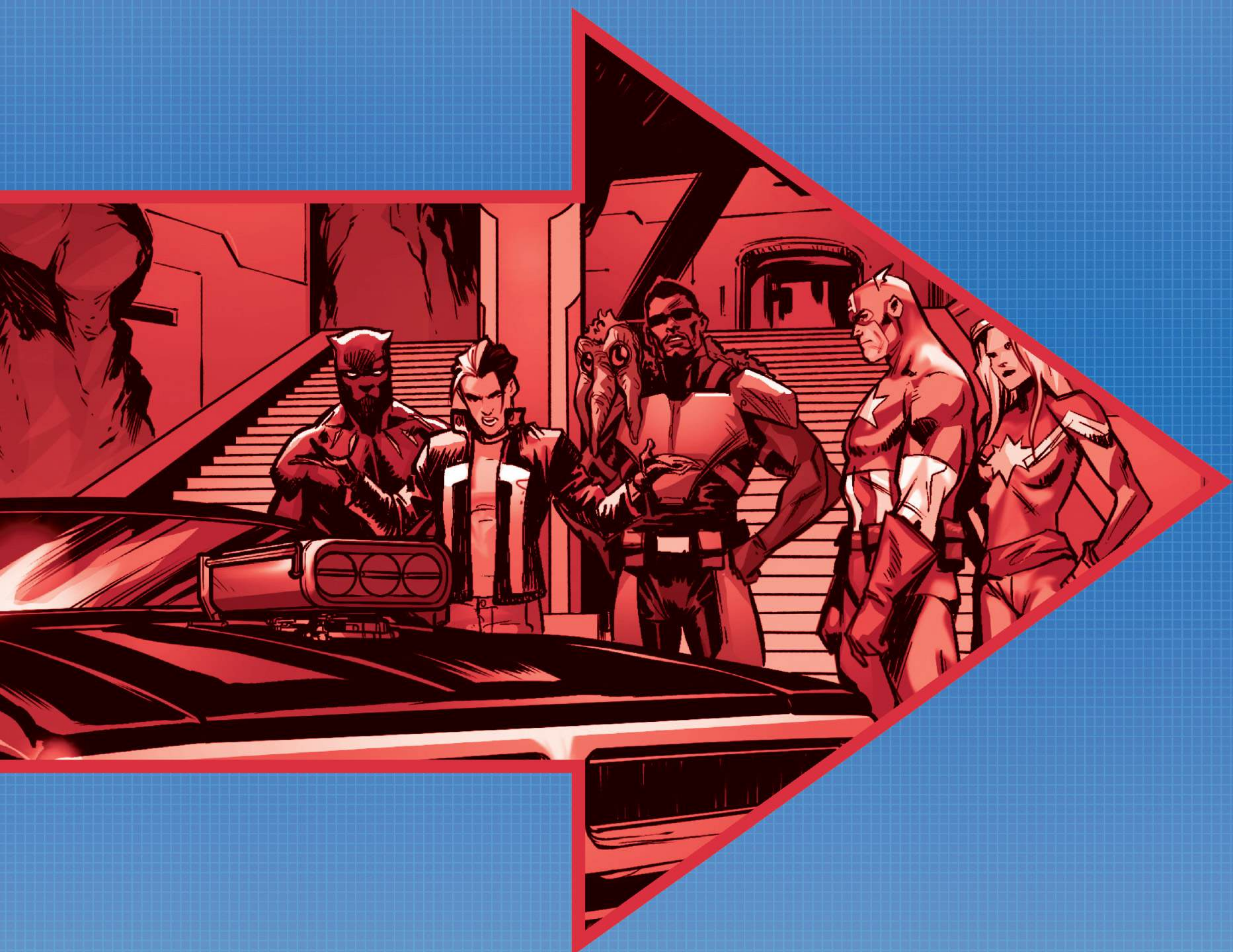


**CHALLENGE
OF THE
GHOST RIDERS**

ON A DAY UNLIKE ANY OTHER, A DARK CELESTIAL INVASION LED IRON MAN, THOR AND CAPTAIN AMERICA TO RE-FORM THE AVENGERS, ADDING BLACK PANTHER, CAPTAIN MARVEL, SHE-HULK AND GHOST RIDER TO THEIR RANKS.

THE AVENGERS HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING TO KEEP THE PEACE BETWEEN SEVERAL AGGRESSIVE FACTIONS, INCLUDING RUSSIA'S WINTER GUARD, NAMOR'S DEFENDERS OF THE DEEP AND EVEN THE ARMIES OF THE DARK ELF KING, MALEKITH.

DESPITE T'CHALLA'S GROWING SUSPICIONS OF PHILLIP COULSON AND HIS MORALLY GRAY SQUADRON SUPREME, IT SEEMED THINGS WERE QUIETING DOWN AT AVENGERS MOUNTAIN – WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ROBBIE REYES' DEMONIC CAR, WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE A DANGEROUS MIND OF ITS OWN...



EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES **THE AVENGERS** CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS

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22 CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS PART 1



HILLROCK HEIGHTS.
EAST LOS ANGELES.



FASTER!
GO FASTER,
ROBBIE!

COIN
LAUNDRY

OPEN 24 Hrs



YOU HAVEN'T
TAKEN ME FOR A
RIDE IN YOUR CAR IN
FOREVER! YOU'VE BEEN
SO BUSY WITH YOUR
NEW **JOB!** I WANNA
GO FAST!

YEAH, I
KNOW I'VE BEEN
BUSY, **GABE.** SORRY,
LITTLE BROTHER.
BUT HEY,
LISTEN...

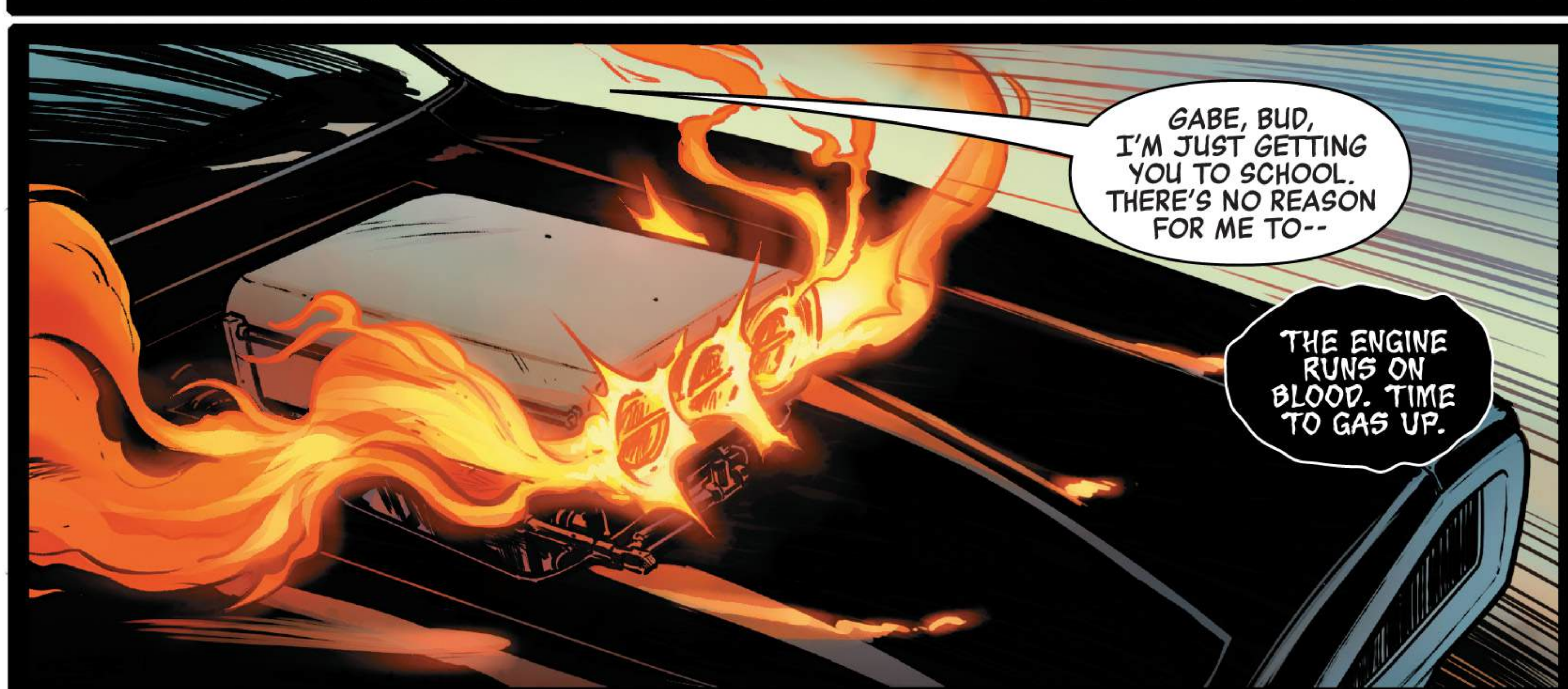


...THAT NEW
JOB MAYBE ISN'T
WORKING OUT SO
GREAT.

SEEMS LIKE
I MIGHT NOT
BE CUT OUT FOR...
THAT KINDA
GIG.

I'VE BEEN
THINKING ABOUT...
WELL...ABOUT
QUITTING.

FASTER!
YOU'RE STILL GOING
TOO SLOW!



GABE, BUD,
I'M JUST GETTING
YOU TO SCHOOL.
THERE'S NO REASON
FOR ME TO--

THE ENGINE
RUNS ON
BLOOD. TIME
TO GAS UP.



WHOA!
WHAT THE
HELL?!

YES. FAST!
FAST!



GAAAH!
BRAKES DON'T
WORK! CAN'T STEER!
WHAT'S...

STREETS ARE
PAVED WITH SCABS
AND OUR TIRES ARE
MADE OF BUTCHER KNIVES.
HELL CHARGER NEEDS
ITS FEEDING.



FEAST OF
BLOOD-DRENCHED
SPEED.

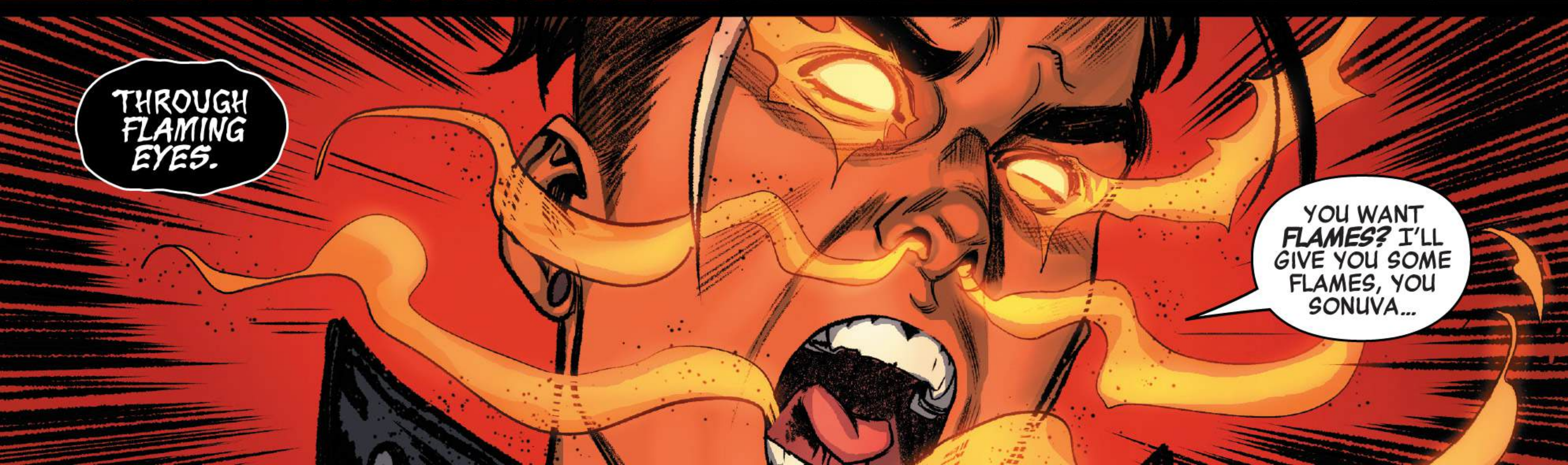
GAAAAGGHH!!!

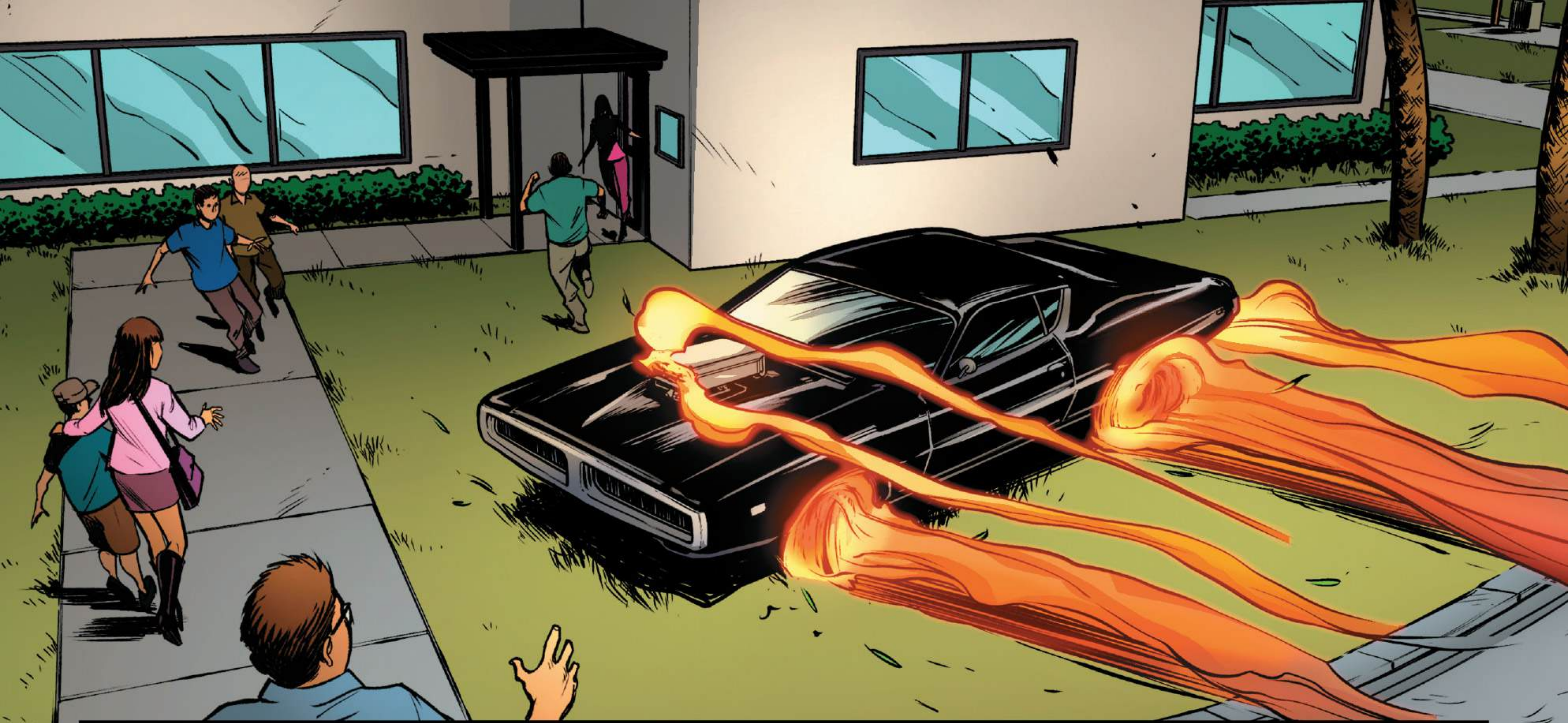


SLOW IS
DEATH! SLOW
IS PENANCE!

LIVING IS
THE PEDAL TO
THE BONE!

FREEDOM
OF SOUL-BURNING
HORSEPOWER!





HA!
THAT WAS
AWESOME!

AGAIN!

WHAT...
YOU...YOU...



YOU CRAZY
@#%* CAR!
I *%#@
HATE YOU!

ROBBIE?



I HATE
YOU! I HATE
YOU! I...

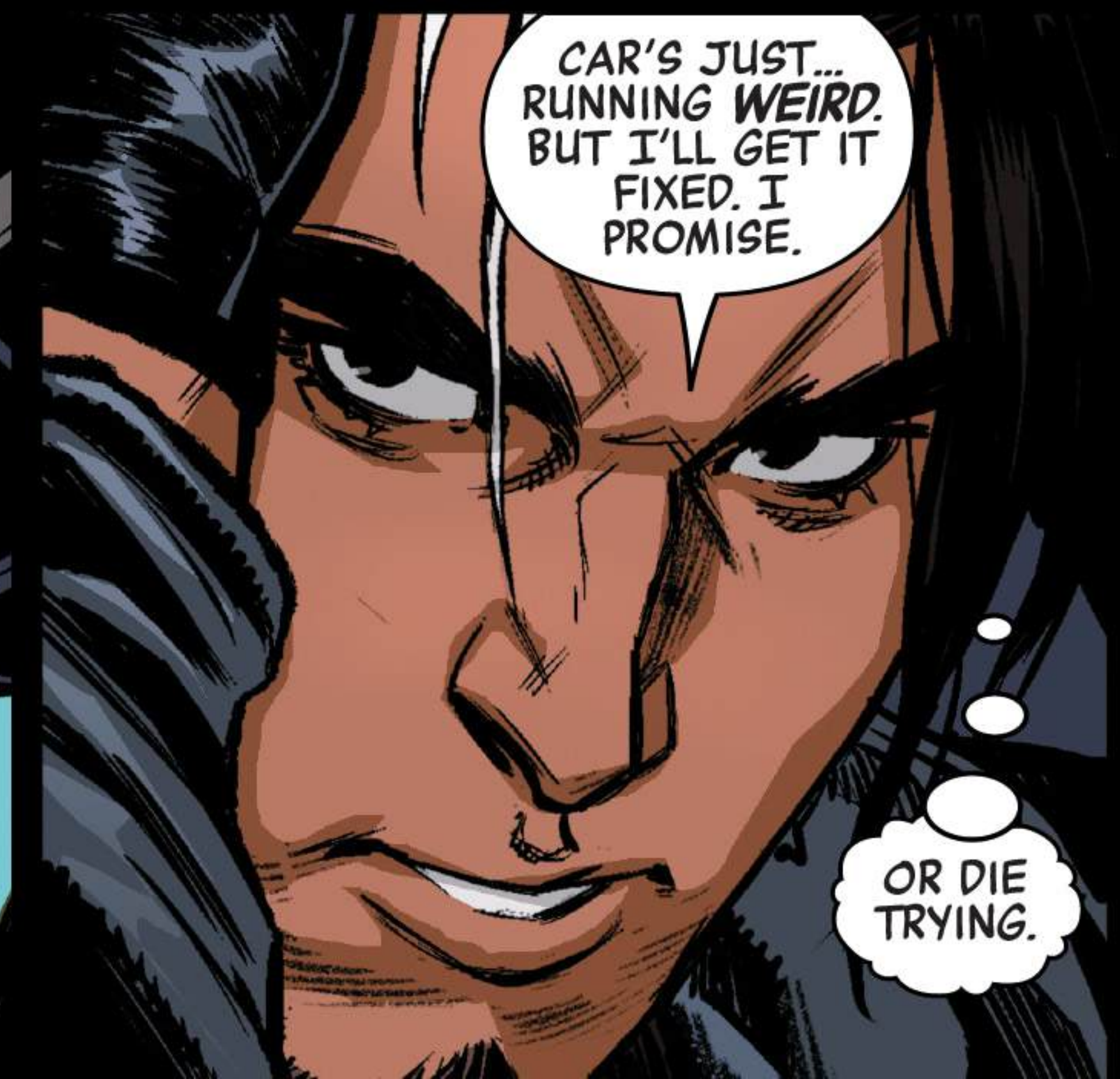
GAAAAGH!!!



ROBBIE?
WHAT'S
WRONG?

I'M THE
GHOST RIDER,
GABE. THAT'S WHAT'S
WRONG. I'M GOING
TO GET YOU
KILLED.

NOTHING,
HERMANITO. I'LL
BE ALL RIGHT.



CAR'S JUST...
RUNNING WEIRD.
BUT I'LL GET IT
FIXED. I
PROMISE.

OR DIE
TRYING.

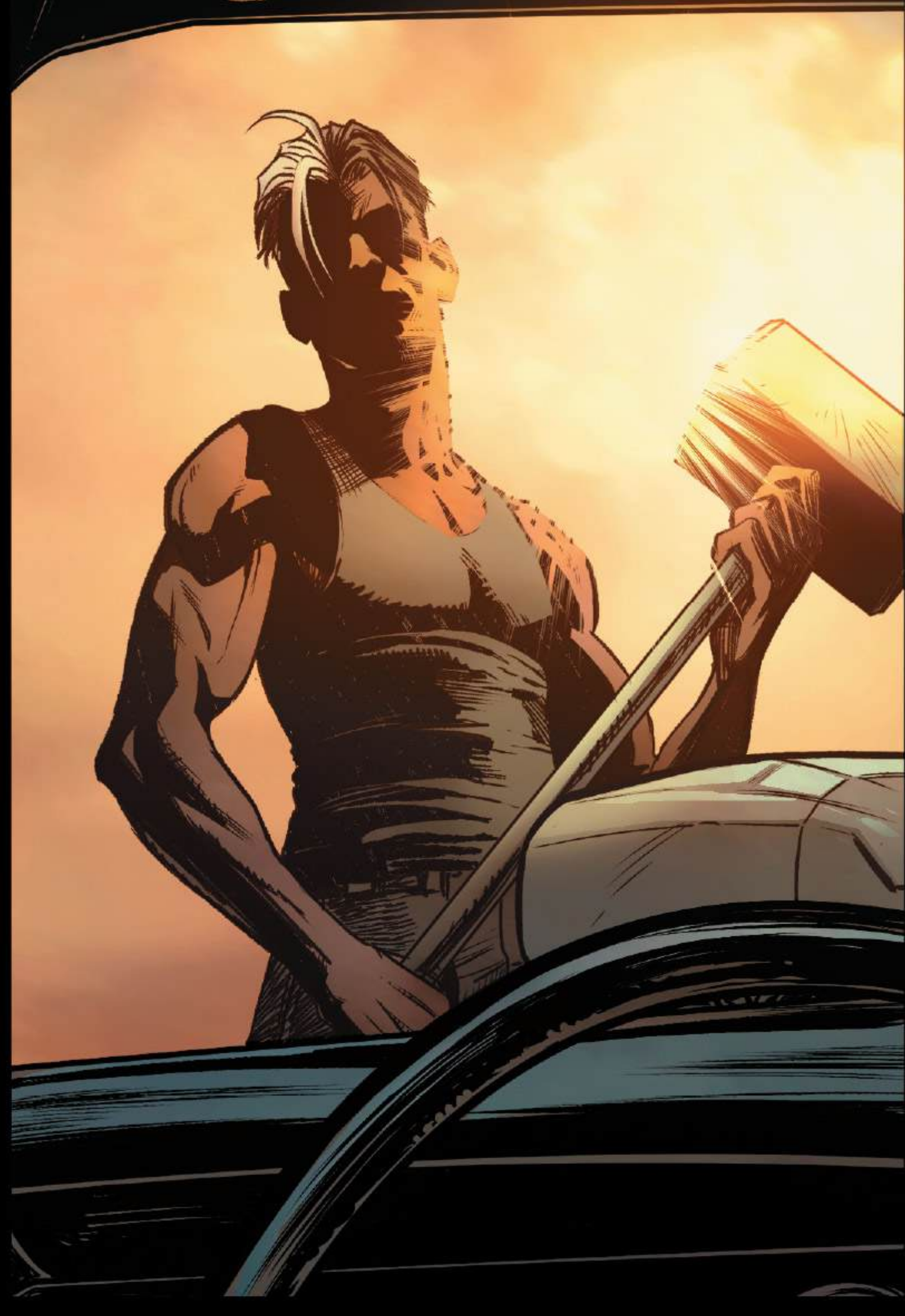
"MY CAR TRIED TO
KILL MY BROTHER.

"GABE SOMEHOW
DIDN'T SEE OR HEAR
ANYTHING. BUT...
IT WAS *REAL*.

"IT WAS A THREAT. MY CAR
THREATENED MY FAMILY. ONLY
FAMILY I'VE GOT LEFT.



"SO...I FIGURED THERE
WAS ONLY ONE
THING TO DO.



"I BEAT IT
TO PIECES.
FOR HOURS.

"SLIT THE TIRES.
TORE THE ENGINE
APART.

RRRRGGGH!!!



"THEN SET THE
WHOLE THING
ON *FIRE*.

"AND ONCE IT WAS A
SMOLDERING, RUINED HUSK...
I *BURIED* IT IN THE DESERT.

"TOOK A BUS BACK INTO
TOWN, COVERED WITH SOOT
AND OIL AND BROKEN GLASS.





"DAMN THING WAS THERE *WAITING* FOR ME WHEN I GOT HOME."

"GOOD AS DAMN NEW."

"AND I SWEAR TO GOD OR TO THOR OR WHATEVER..."



...I COULD HEAR THE HELL CHARGER *LAUGHING*.

YEAH. IT STILL IS.

I DON'T CARE WHAT IT TAKES OR WHAT IT DOES TO ME...I JUST WANT *RID* OF THIS. *ALL* THIS.

THE CAR. THE GHOST RIDER. THE WHOLE DAMN *FLAMING MESS!*



ROBERTO... DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE RISK INVOLVED IN WHAT YOU'RE ASKING FOR HERE? YOU ARE *BONDED* TO THIS VEHICLE ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL IN A WAY WE STILL DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND.

YOU MEAN DO I KNOW THAT THIS COULD *KILL ME?*

YES, SIR, MR. CHAIRMAN. OF COURSE I DO.

BECAUSE IT *ALREADY DID.*

AVENGERS
MOUNTAIN.
THE NORTH POLE.

"MY PARENTS
DISAPPEARED
YEARS AGO."



I'VE
BEEN RAISING
MY LITTLE BROTHER,
GABE, SINCE I WAS
JUST A KID
MYSELF.

HELL, I
SUPPOSE I'M
STILL JUST A
STUPID,
SCARED KID.



I WAS *STREET
RACING* AT NIGHT
BECAUSE WE NEEDED THE
MONEY. SOME WHACKED-OUT
DRUG DEALERS GUNNED ME
DOWN. BUT THE CAR
SOMEHOW BROUGHT ME
BACK. AS A *GHOST
RIDER*.

Turns out
the car was...
POSSESSED BY THE
SOUL OF A DEAD SERIAL
KILLER. WHO WAS ALSO
MY UNCLE *ELI*.



LOOK, I KNOW
THIS SOUNDS
COMPLETELY
INSANE.

ROBBIE.
REMEMBER
WHERE YOU'RE
AT, SON.

YEAH, TRY
READING MY
WIKIPEDIA
SOMETIME.

I...I USED TO
HEAR ELI'S VOICE
IN MY HEAD, URGING
ME TO BE MORE
BRUTAL WHEN I'D
TAKE DOWN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
BANGERS.

BUT I HAVEN'T
HEARD HIM IN MONTHS.
I THOUGHT I WAS...
FINALLY IN *CONTROL*
OF...WHATEVER
THIS IS.

BUT THEN
THOSE *VAMPIRES*...
THE LEGION OF THE
UNLIVING...TURNED
ME INTO THEIR
MONSTER.



HMPH. YOU
WERE *ALREADY*
A MONSTER.

WE'RE ALL
MONSTERS IN
SOMEBODY'S EYES,
BLADE. FOCUS ON
HELPING THE
BOY.

GOT A
SWORD THAT
CAN DO THAT.



AND THEN... THIS THING TODAY WITH GABE... THE VOICE THAT CAME OUT OF THE DASH... IT **WASN'T** ELI'S.

GOD... I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW **WHAT** I AM.



YOU'RE A GHOST RIDER, KID.

AND I'VE RUN WITH ENOUGH **SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE** TO KNOW THERE'S ONLY ONE HARD-AND-FAST RULE WHEN IT COMES TO THE RIDERS...

WHATEVER YOU THINK YOU KNOW IS SURE AS HELL A **LIE**.

GHOST RIDERS HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR THE ENTIRETY OF HUMAN HISTORY. BUT WE STILL DON'T REALLY KNOW THEIR ORIGIN OR TRUE PURPOSE.



SOME SAY THEY WERE GOD'S ORIGINAL JUDGMENT ON HIS MOST REGRETTABLE CREATION. **US**.

OTHERS SAY IT'S A **CURSE**. ONE THAT FOOLS USUALLY BRING ON THEMSELVES BY MAKING A DEAL WITH SOME **DEVIL** OR ANOTHER.

I NEVER MADE NO DEALS.



MAYBE NOT. BUT MAYBE YOUR **UNCLE** DID.

OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST THE **UNLUCKIEST** STREET RACER IN THE WORLD, ROBBIE REYES. EITHER WAY, HERE WE ARE. WITH A SERIOUS **MURDER CAR** PROBLEM.

GOOD THING I BROUGHT MY **HELLFIRE SHOTGUN**.

EVERY PROBLEM HAS A SOLUTION. WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU **ARE**, ROBERTO. ONCE AND FOR ALL.

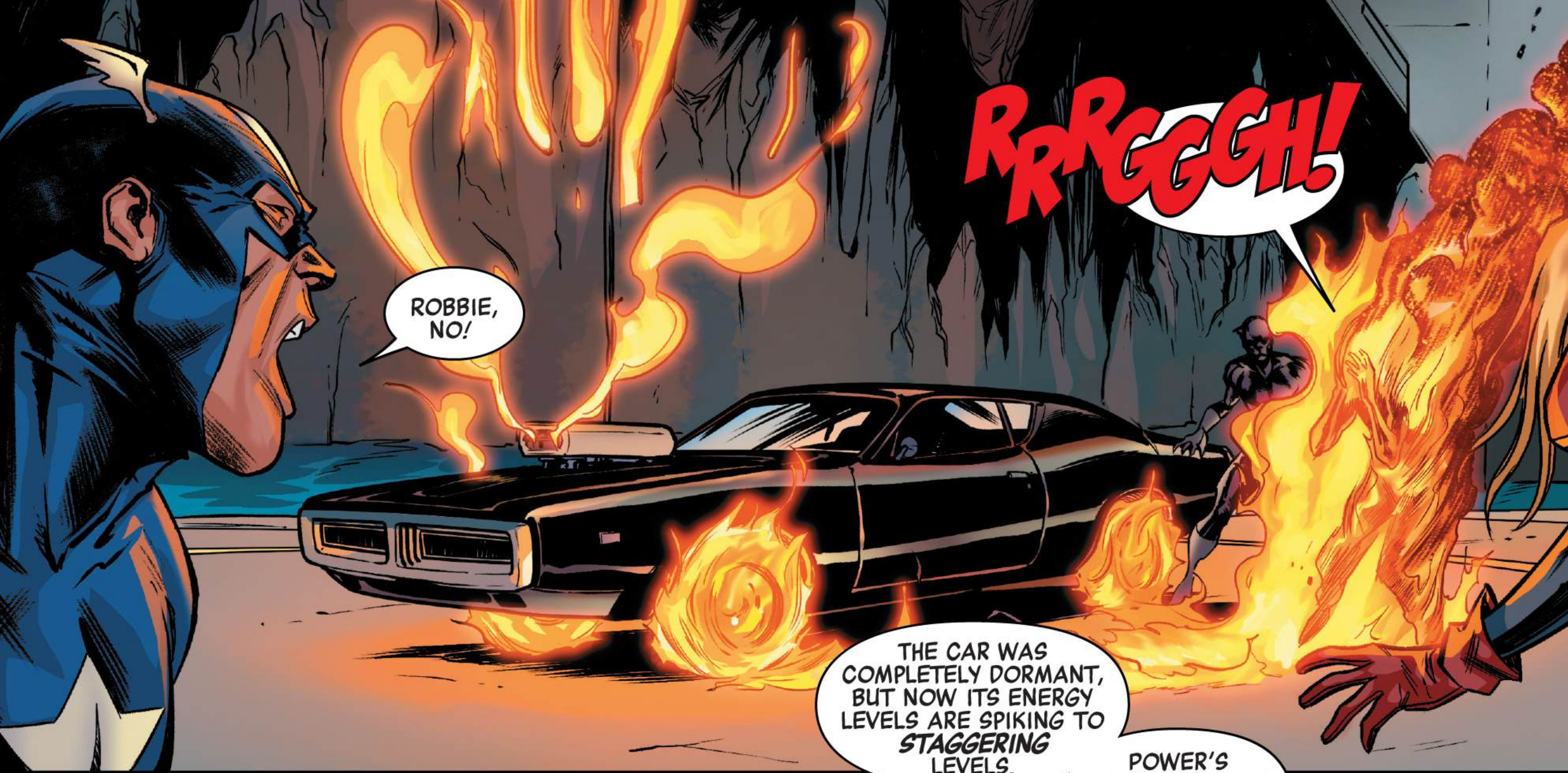
TRIED CALLING THE RIDERS I KNOW FOR HELP. BUT **DANNY KETCH** ANSWERED DRUNK AND HUNG UP. AND NOBODY'S SEEN **JOHNNY BLAZE** FOR WEEKS.

I'VE ALREADY SUMMONED AN **EXPERT** IN THIS FIELD. BUT UNTIL HE ARRIVES, I'D LIKE TO RUN A FEW TESTS, IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, ROBERTO.

IF YOU COULD TRANSFORM INTO THE GHOST RIDER, I'LL ATTEMPT TO MEASURE THE ENERGY CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND THE VEHICLE.

OKAY. IF YOU SAY SO.

BLAZE. YOU KNOW, I HAD A WEIRD **DREAM** ABOUT HIM NOT LONG AGO. DREAMED HE WAS THE **KING** OF...



ROBBIE,
NO!

RRRGHH!

THE CAR WAS
COMPLETELY DORMANT,
BUT NOW ITS ENERGY
LEVELS ARE SPIKING TO
STAGGERING
LEVELS.

POWER'S
ORIGIN POINT IS
STILL UNKNOWN.
ATTEMPTING TO
TRACK IT.



T'CHALLA,
SHUT IT DOWN!
TELEPORT THE CAR
INTO THE SUN!



THAT COULD
KILL THE BOY,
STEVE!

SO
COULD
THIS!

WE HAVE TO
GET THIS THING
OFF HIM!

GGRRRRRGH!!!



I PUNCH HOLES IN IT AND IT GROWS RIGHT BACK!

SHOTGUN HURTS IT, BUT I'D NEED A HELLFIRE BAZOOKA TO KILL THIS BLASTED...



FWOOOOOSH



YOU'VE ALREADY GOT MORE THAN A BAZOOKA. YOU'VE GOT ME.

AND I'M GONNA KILL THIS HELL CHARGER, NO MATTER WHAT IT--



YOU TRIED TO START WITHOUT ME, DIDN'T YOU? YOU DAMNED FOOLS.



YOU'RE LUCKY
YOU'RE NOT ALL
VOMITING BLOOD AND
SCREAMING AT ONE
ANOTHER IN LATIN.

IF YOU
AVENGERS PLAN
ON SURVIVING THIS
EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR
PATHETIC *SOULS* INTACT,
I SUGGEST YOU DO
EXACTLY WHAT I
SAY FROM HERE
ON OUT.

T'CHALLA.
WHO THE HELL IS
THIS JERK?

THIS IS THE
EXPERT I SUMMONED.
AVENGERS, MEET
DAIMON HELLSTROM,
THE SON OF
SATAN.

EXPERT
IN *WHAT*
EXACTLY?

IN DEVILS
AND DAMNATION
AND ALL THE WICKED
LITTLE BEASTS THAT
SQUIRM THEIR WAY OUT
OF HELL TO NEST
INSIDE YOUR WEAK,
MORTAL FLESH LIKE
RAVENOUS
MAGGOTS.

IN
EXORCISMS.

WHAT SAY
WE GET ONE
STARTED? RIGHT
HERE AND
NOW.

TURKEY.

AS YOU
CAN SEE, IT
IS QUITE THE
MESS.

THIS WAS
WHERE CAPTAIN
MARVEL AND HER
WAR AVENGERS
DEFEATED A LARGE
FORCE OF **FIRE**
GOBLINS.

QUEEN SINDR'S
TROOPS BURIED ALL
MANNER OF OTHERWORLDLY
MUNITIONS HERE. INCLUDING
EXPLOSIVE EGG SACS AND
WHAT APPEAR TO BE LARGE,
HUNGRY MILLIPEDES.

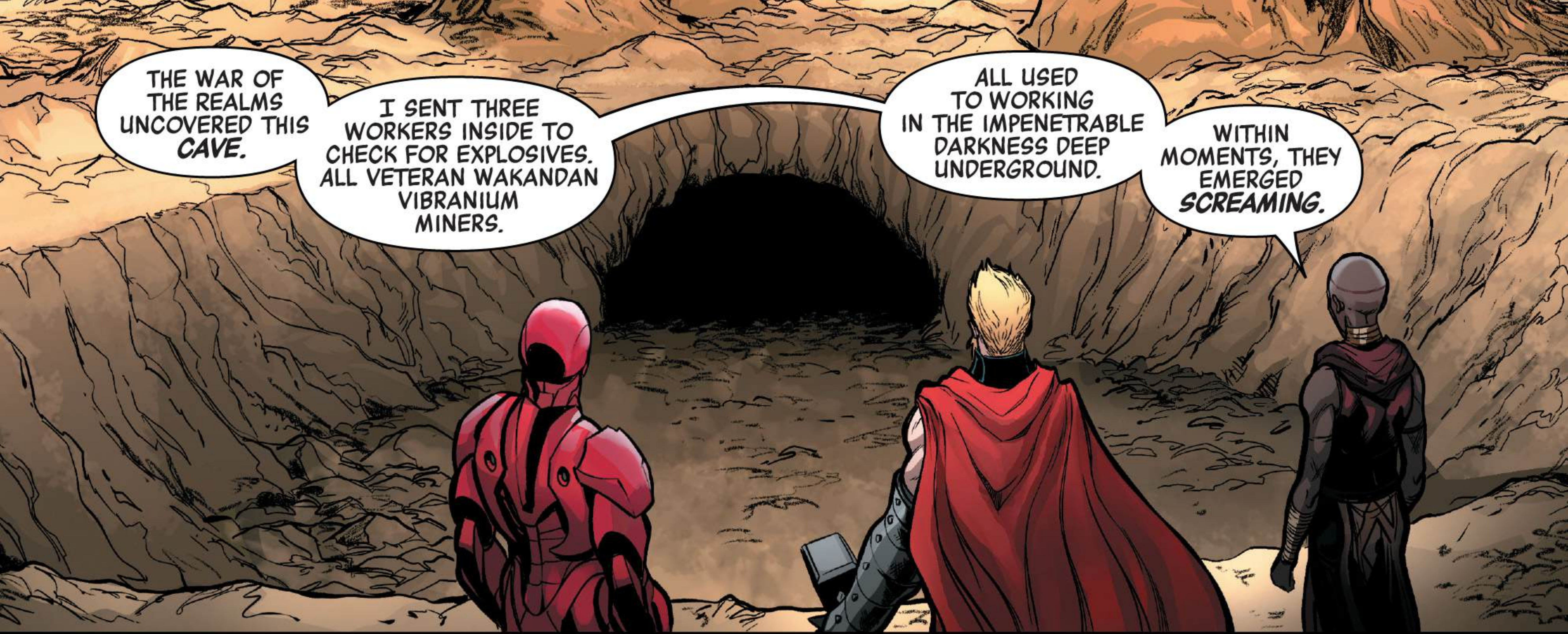
MUSPELHEIM
GRUB MINES. NASTY
LITTLE MONSTERS. HOW ARE
YOU DISARMING THEM,
LADY OKOYE?

RRRRRRGGGH!!!

EFFECTIVELY.

LOOKS LIKE,
THEN WHY'D YOU
CALL US, OKOYE?
MINES AREN'T REALLY
MY SPECIALTY
ANYMORE.

BECAUSE,
IRON MAN,
WE ALSO FOUND
SOMETHING
ELSE.



THE WAR OF THE REALMS UNCOVERED THIS CAVE.

I SENT THREE WORKERS INSIDE TO CHECK FOR EXPLOSIVES. ALL VETERAN WAKANDAN VIBRANIUM MINERS.

ALL USED TO WORKING IN THE IMPENETRABLE DARKNESS DEEP UNDERGROUND.

WITHIN MOMENTS, THEY EMERGED SCREAMING.

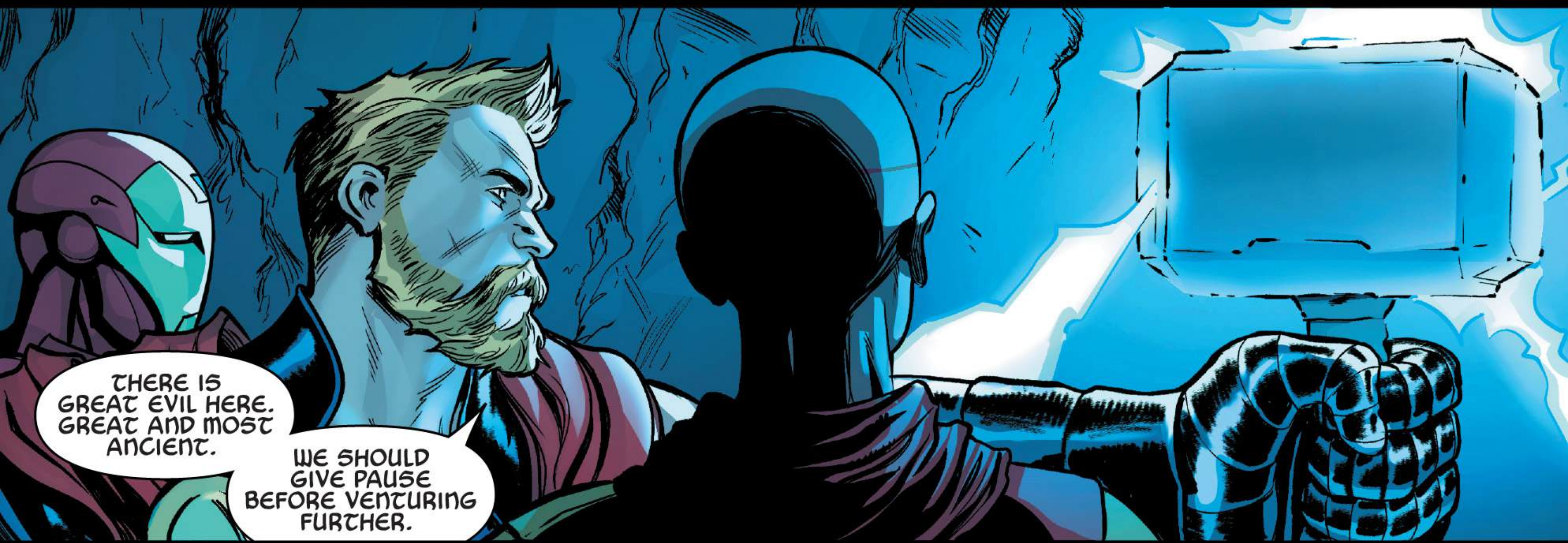


EVEN NOW, THEY CANNOT SPEAK OF WHAT THEY SAW WITHOUT BEING REDUCED TO FITS OF WEEPING AND WAILING.

AH, SO THAT'S WHY YOU CALLED US. TO CHECK OUT YOUR CREEPY CAVE FOR YOU.

SCANS SHOW NOTHING UNUSUAL. LET'S GO, THOR.

HOLD.



THERE IS GREAT EVIL HERE. GREAT AND MOST ANCIENT.

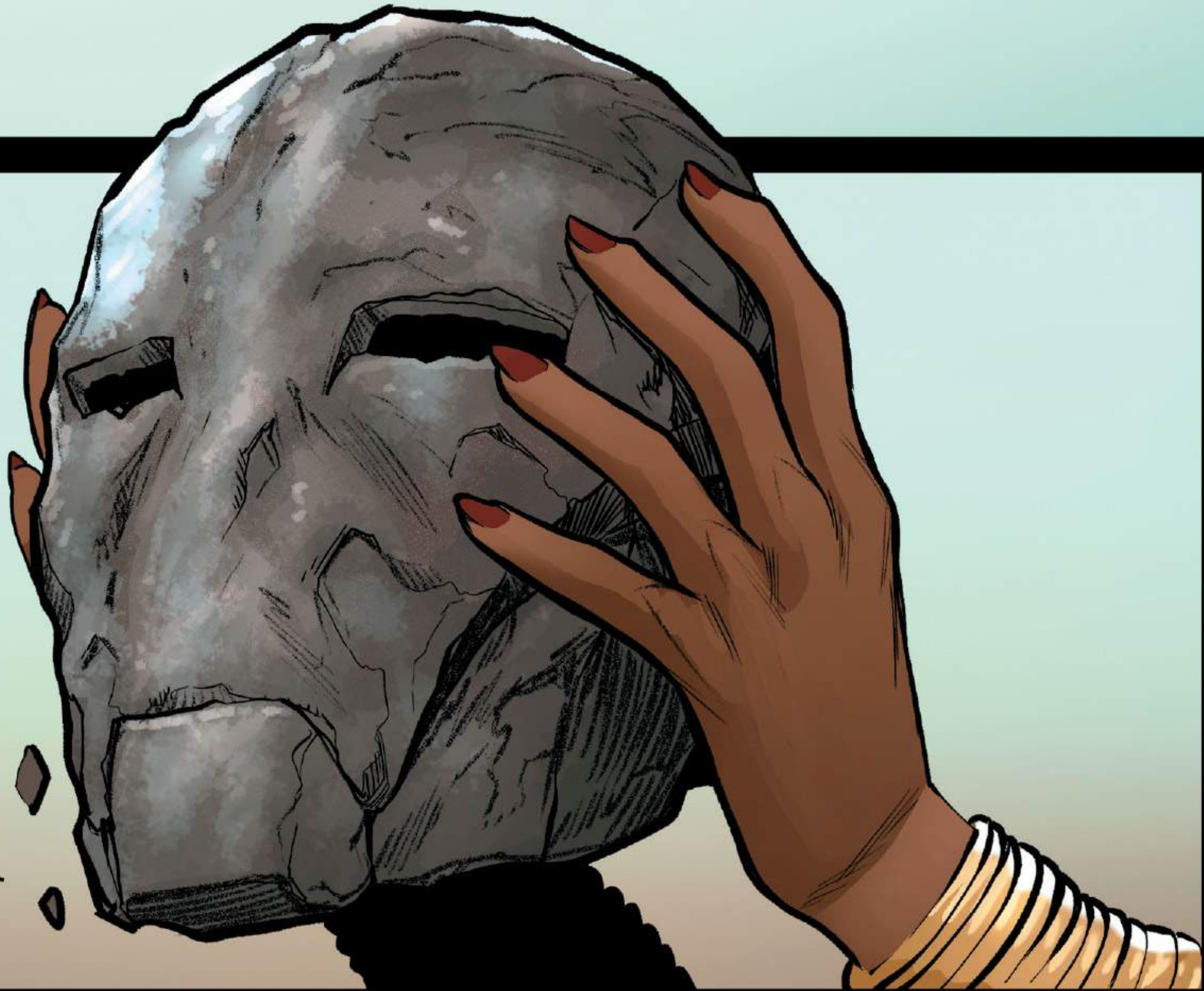
WE SHOULD GIVE PAUSE BEFORE VENTURING FURTHER.



THE CAVE HAS ALREADY BEEN EXPLORED.

BY ME.

I CALLED YOU, TONY STARK, BECAUSE OF WHAT I DISCOVERED INSIDE.

A close-up of a hand holding a dark, textured, fossilized metal mask. The mask has a jagged, organic shape with eye and mouth openings. The hand is brown-skinned and wears a gold-colored bangle.

IT DATES TO
ONE MILLION
BCE.

THE
STONE
AGE.

BUT IT WAS
NOT CARVED
FROM STONE.

IT IS
FOSSILIZED
METAL.

Three characters are in a cave. On the left, a woman with a shaved head and a red and gold suit. In the center, a man with a beard and a red cape. On the right, Iron Man in his red and gold armor, holding the fossilized mask.

AND THERE
WOULD APPEAR TO
BE THE REMAINS OF
A **SKULL** INSIDE. A
HOMO SAPIEN
SKULL.

THIS IS...
UNNATURAL. THAT
THING REEKS OF EVIL,
STARK. YOU SHOULD
DESTROY IT AT
ONCE.

HE MIGHT BE
RIGHT. THERE IS
UNDOUBTEDLY A
SUPERNATURAL
PRESENCE IN
THIS PLACE.

TELL ME, STARK,
HAVE YOU EVER
BEEN INSIDE THIS
CAVE BEFORE?

NO.

A close-up of the back of Iron Man's red helmet.

BUT SOMETHING
TELLS ME I'M
GOING TO BE.



CAP, YOUR HANDS...

I'M ALL RIGHT.



YOU'RE NOT.

YOU NEED TO TREAT THOSE WOUNDS WITH HOLY WATER BEFORE YOU BECOME INFECTED ON A SPIRITUAL LEVEL.

I...DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANY HOLY WATER HANDY.



STEVE, THIS IS AVENGERS MOUNTAIN. WE HAVE EVERYTHING.

T'CHALLA TO GORILLA-MAN. I NEED ONE BOTTLE OF HOLY WATER.



ON SECOND THOUGHT...YOU HAD BETTER BRING THEM ALL.

ILASA TABAANU LI-EL PERETA!



BLADE.

I MUST
ASK OF YOU
A FAVOR.



YOU'RE THE
ONLY ONE HERE
I *TRUST*.

REALLY?
BECAUSE I
DON'T TRUST
YOU AT ALL,
DAIMON.



THIS IS A *BREATHING
GUN*. ONE OF THE ARCH
WEAPONS OF HELL.
ABSURDLY MORE
POWERFUL THAN THAT
PALTRY SHOTGUN
OF YOURS.

IF THINGS GET OUT OF HAND, IF I
CANNOT CONTROL THE FORCES I
AM ABOUT TO UNLEASH OR IF, HELLS
HELP US, I SHOULD BECOME
POSSESSED MYSELF...THE GUN
WILL BEGIN TO *HISS*.

THAT WILL
BE YOUR CUE
TO *USE* IT.

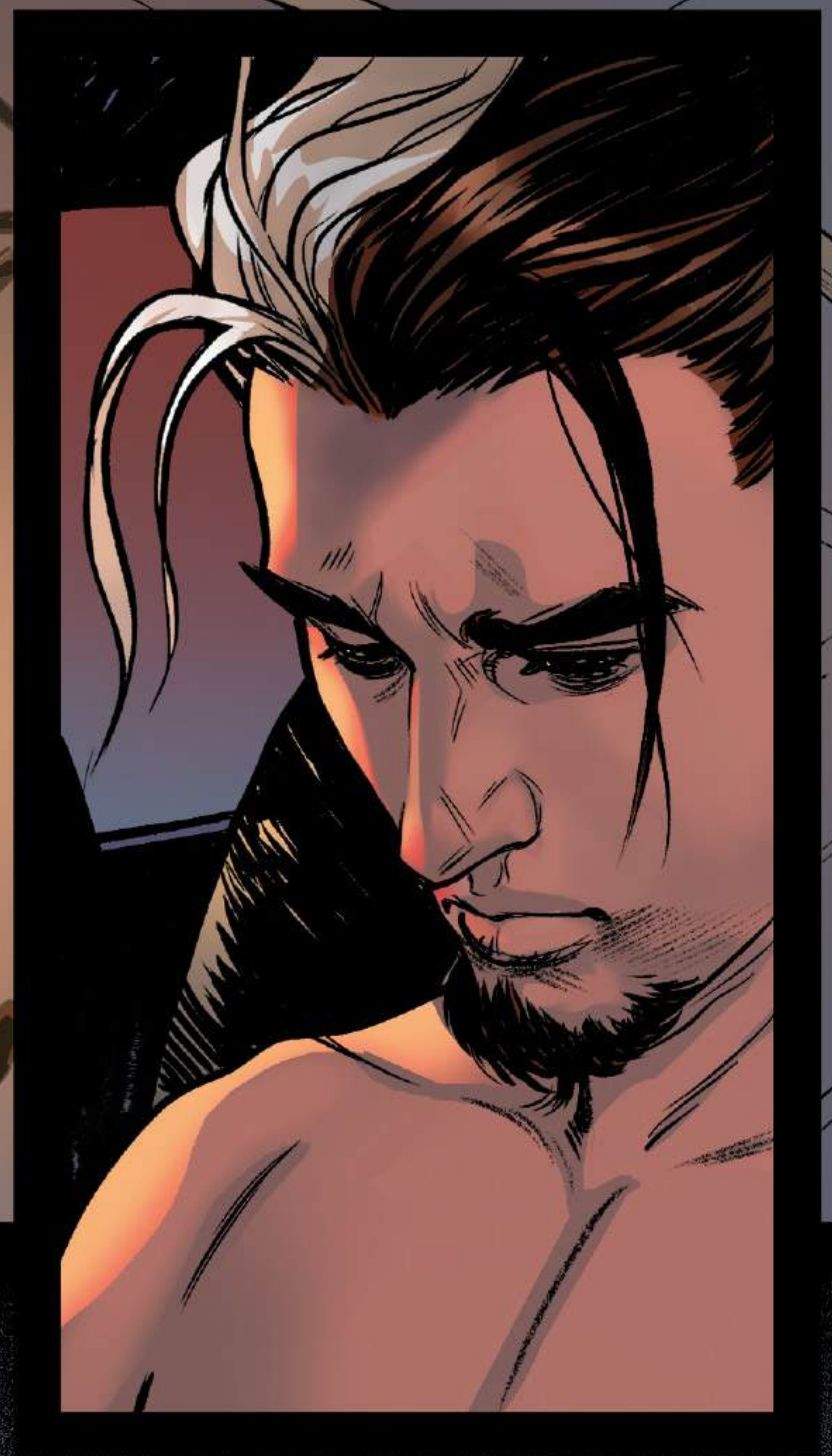
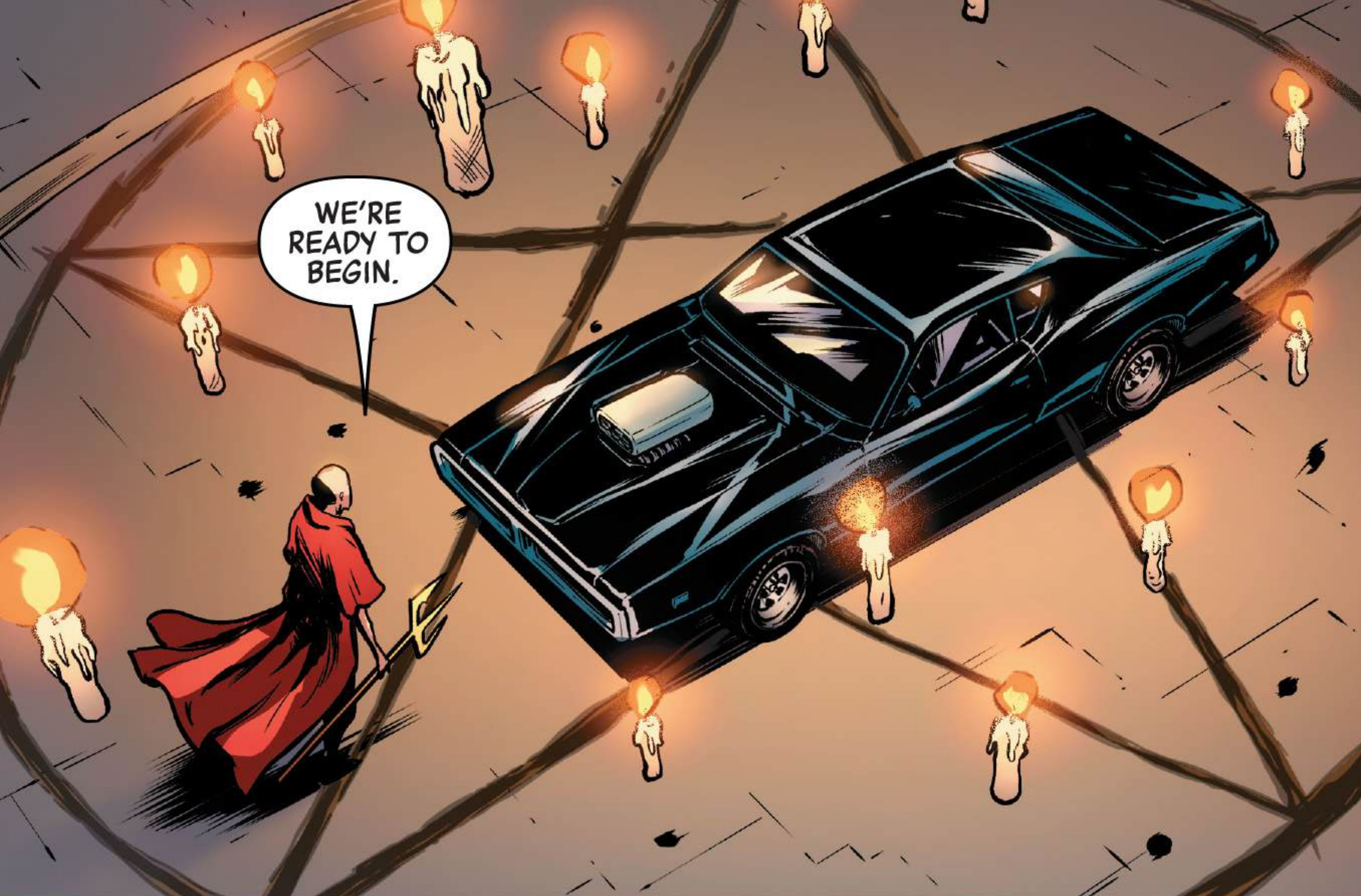


SHOOT
THE RIDER.

THEN
ME.

THEN
EMPTY
WHATEVER'S
LEFT INTO
THE CAR.

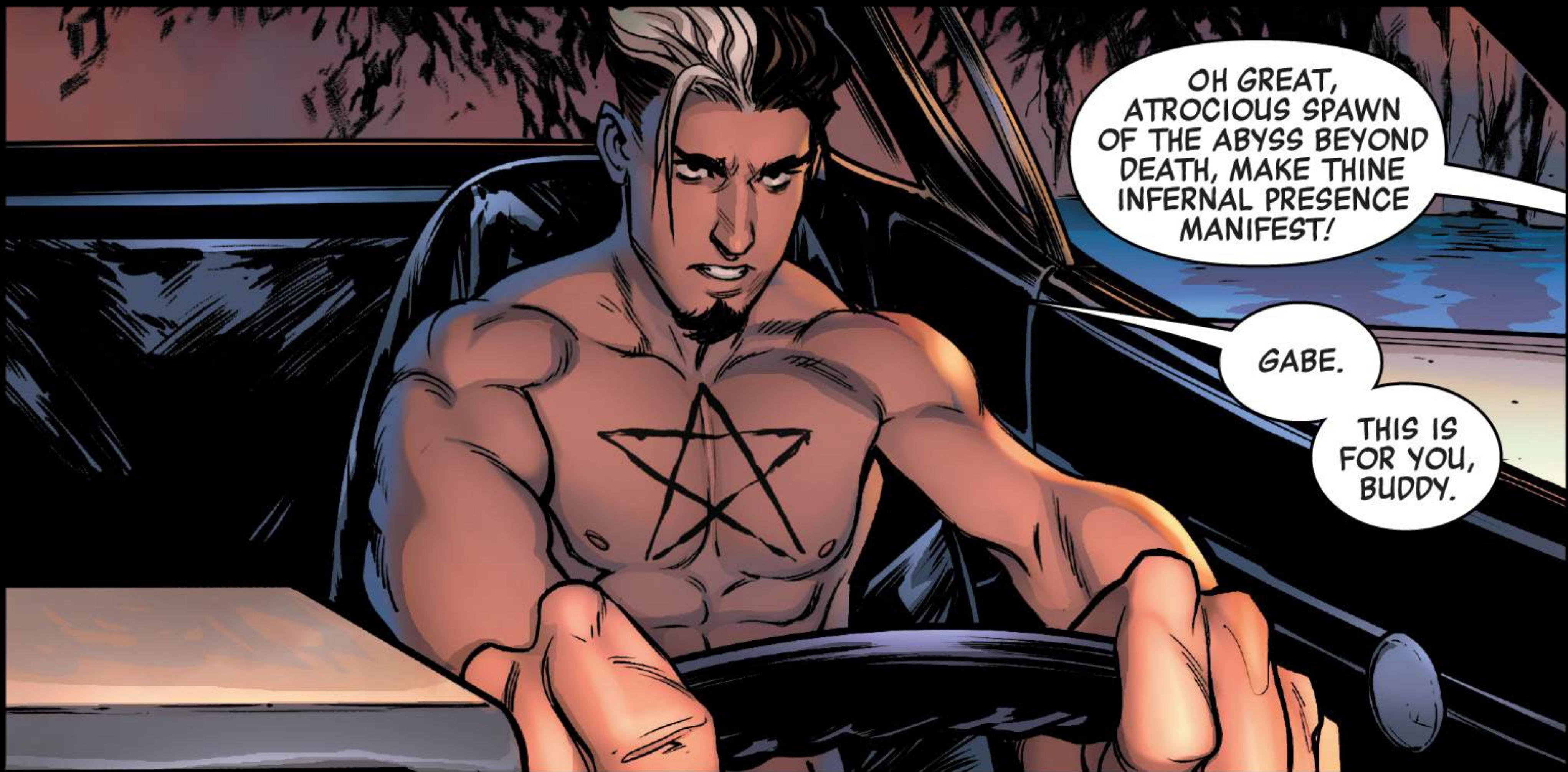
AND PRAY
TO ALL THE
DEVILS THAT'S
ENOUGH.



UNCLEAN SPIRIT!
IN THE NAME OF
SATAN AND MEPHISTO
AND ALL THE SOUL-
SLAVERS OF THE PIT,
COME FORTH!

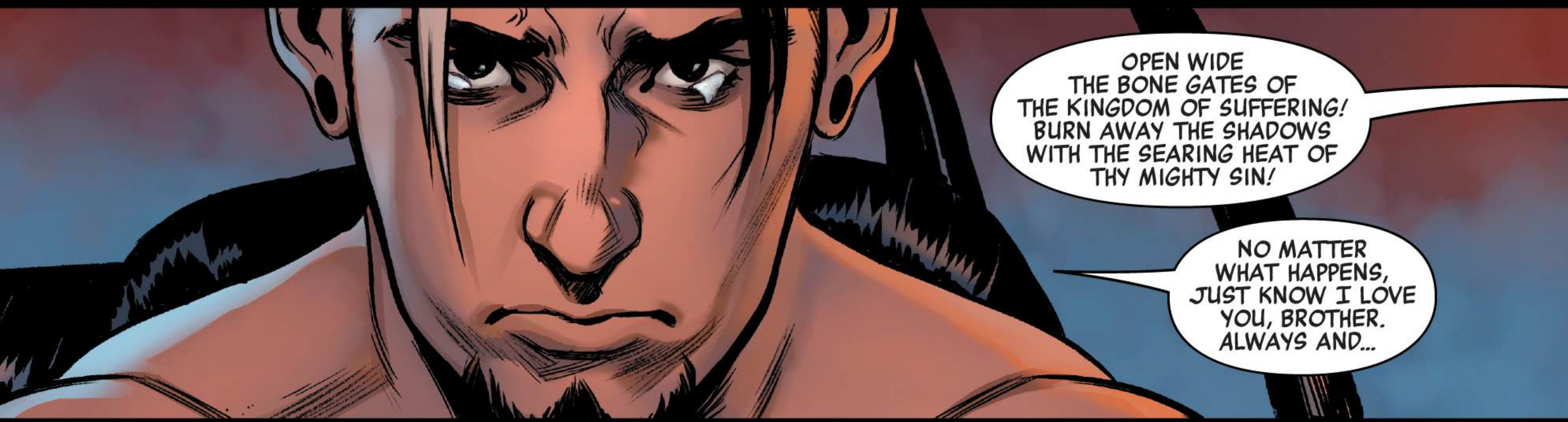


OH GREAT,
ATROCIOUS SPAWN
OF THE ABYSS BEYOND
DEATH, MAKE THINE
INFERNAL PRESENCE
MANIFEST!



GABE.

THIS IS
FOR YOU,
BUDDY.

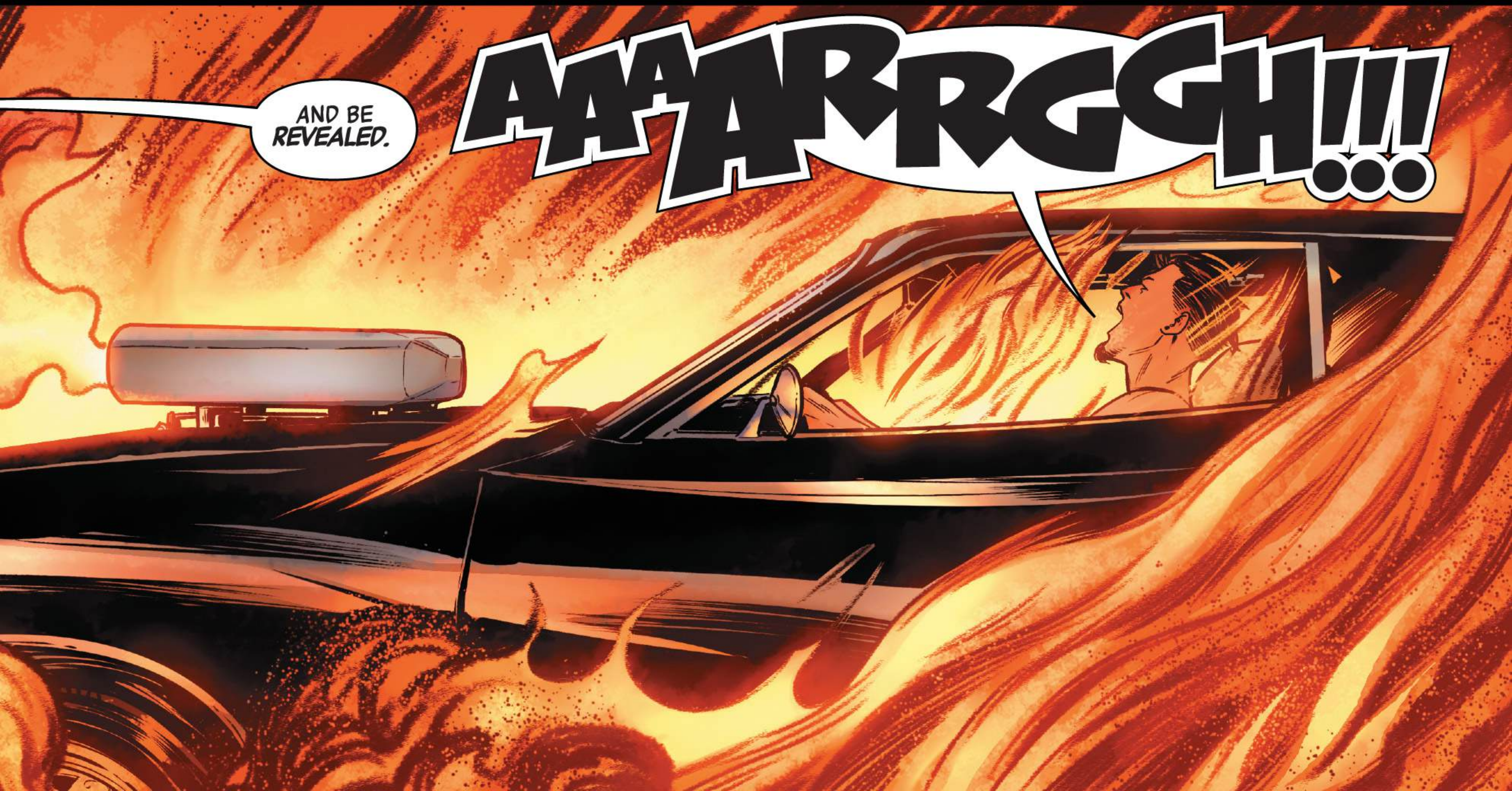


OPEN WIDE
THE BONE GATES OF
THE KINGDOM OF SUFFERING!
BURN AWAY THE SHADOWS
WITH THE SEARING HEAT OF
THY MIGHTY SIN!

NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS,
JUST KNOW I LOVE
YOU, BROTHER.
ALWAYS AND...

AND BE
REVEALED.

AAAARRGGH!!!





WHAT? WHAT
JUST HAPPENED?
WHERE'D...



NO...NOT
THIS PLACE.
NOT AGAIN.

AN
EXORCISM?
HEH.



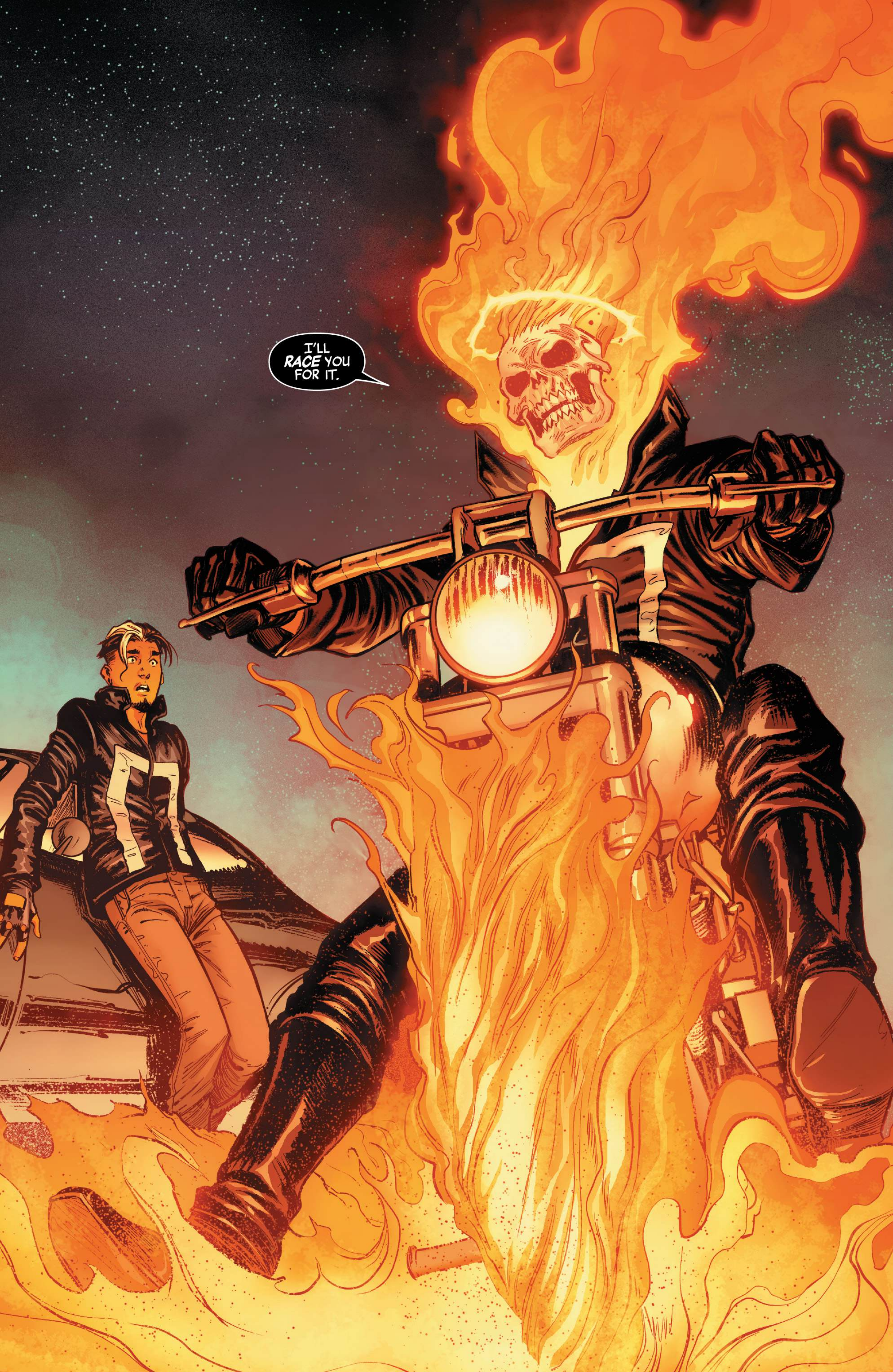
WHAT, DID YOU
THINK YOU COULD JUST
THROW AWAY THE SPIRIT
OF VENGEANCE? THAT
AIN'T HOW THIS
WORKS, KID.

OH
NO.



BUT DON'T
WORRY, I'LL
TAKE IT OFF
YOUR HANDS.

THE
GHOST RIDER
WAY.

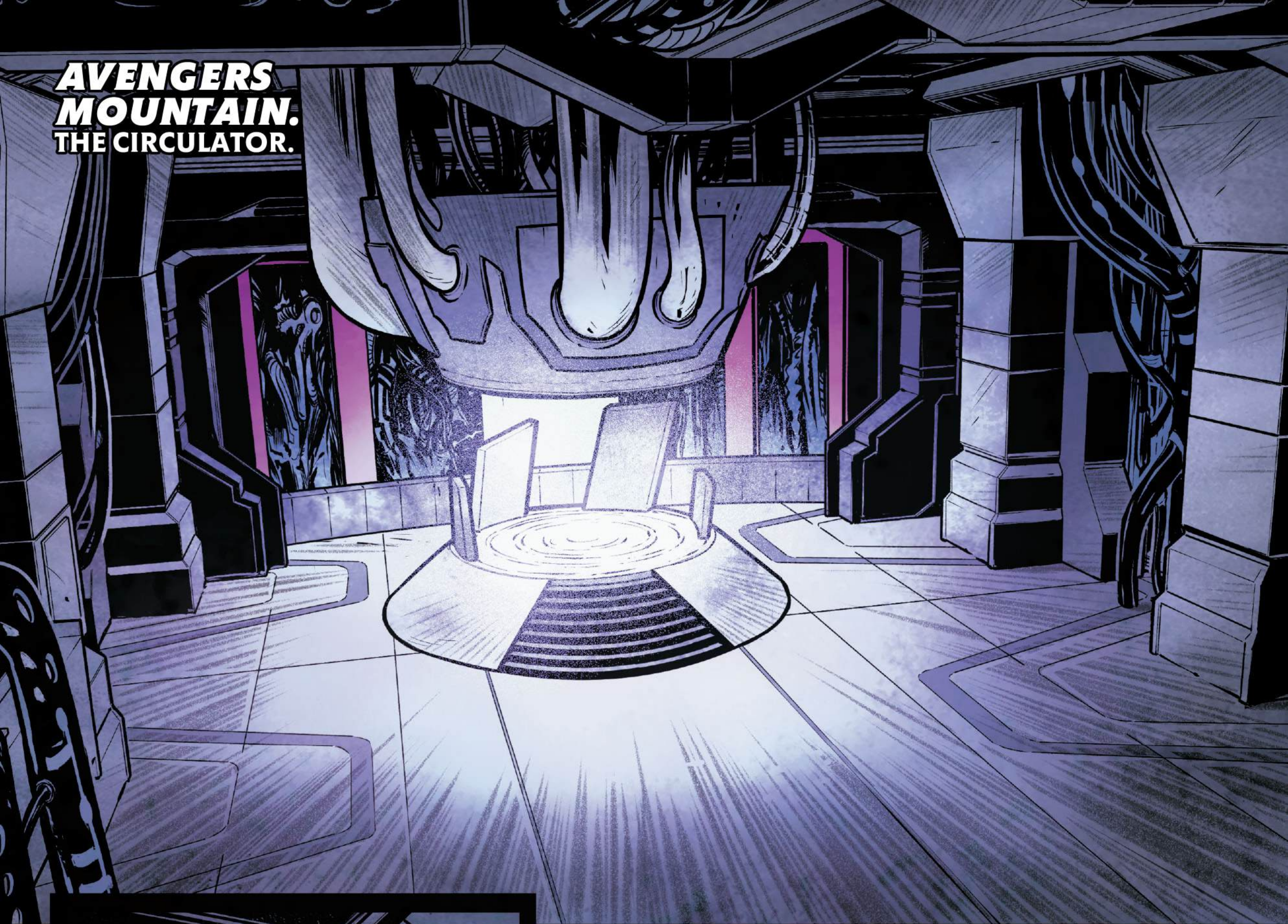


I'LL
RACE YOU
FOR IT.

23 CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS PART 2



**AVENGERS
MOUNTAIN.
THE CIRCULATOR.**



--TELLING YOU,
WE SHOULD NOT
HAVE ALLOWED
STARK TO REMAIN
BEHIND WITH THAT
CURSED **RELIC**.

REH.
STARK'S
A GROWN
MAN.

SORTA.

THERE IS
AN **ANCIENT**
WICKEDNESS IN
THAT CAVE, MY LADY
JENNIFER. I COULD
FEEL IT DEEP IN MY
GOD-BONES.

YOU COULD
JUST SAY BONES,
HONEY. WE ALL
KNOW YOU'RE
A GOD.

AND I
FEAR OUR
FRIEND MAY
BECOME
INFECTED
WITH--

STOP
RIGHT
THERE!





THIS ENTIRE FACILITY IS UNDER **QUARANTINE**! NO ONE GOES ANY FARTHER WITHOUT PROPER PROTECTION!

BROTHER STEVEN, WHAT **DEVILRY** HAS HAPPENED HERE?

DEVILRY IS RIGHT, THOR! WE'VE GOT A **CODE 666**! AN EXORCISM GONE WRONG!



ROBBIE AND HIS HELL CHARGER HAVE **DISAPPEARED**! AND THE DEMONIC SPIRIT WE WERE TRYING TO EXORCISE HAS BEEN **SET LOOSE**!

IN OTHER WORDS...



"...AVENGERS MOUNTAIN IS **POSSESSED**!"

AH, AVENGERS... YOUR SPACE-CORPSE HEADQUARTERS IS WEEPING BLOOD. IS THIS SOMETHING IT **NORMALLY** DOES?

DEFINITELY NOT.

SPLENDID.

HELLSTORM.
THE SON OF SATAN.
PROFESSIONAL SUPER-EXORCIST.

THEN IT SEEMS I JUST SUCCESSFULLY PRODDED YOUR INFERNAL INTRUDER.

HE DOESN'T REEK OF ANY DEMON OR NETHER-SPAWN I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED. AND BY THE HADEAN CHIMES, I'VE ENCOUNTERED THEM ALL.



HIS POWER IS... STAGGERINGLY IMPRESSIVE. AND MORE THAN MERELY HELLISH IN ORIGIN.



AS I BEGIN THE EXTRACTION PROCESS, EXPECT TO SEE THE INVADER'S SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE MADE MANIFEST.

YOU DON'T SAY!

MOUNTAIN, DEPLOY NECRO-EXTINGUISHERS ON LEVEL 237 AND OPEN THE DOORS DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF ME.

IT'S NOT RESPONDING.



LET ME GET THAT DOOR FOR YOU BOYS.

CAPTAIN MARVEL. BLADE. STAND READY.

SCANS SHOW THAT WHATEVER ENTITY EMERGED FROM ROBBIE'S VEHICLE QUICKLY MADE ITS WAY *HERE*.

WAIT, LEVEL 237... WHICH ROOM IS THIS AGAIN?

THE ARMORY.



THE DEMON
JUST POSSESSED A
ROOMFUL OF THE WORLD'S
DEADLIEST WEAPONS. BAST
HELP US IF IT GETS TO
THE HELICARRIERS.

THOR AND
HULK, WE NEED
YOU GUARDING
THE HANGARS.

I DON'T CARE
IF IT POSSESSES THE
WHOLE DAMN MOUNTAIN,
WE'VE GOTTA FIND OUT
WHAT HAPPENED TO
ROBBIE!

**CONSECRATED
NAPALM.**
EFFECTIVE AGAINST
MYSTICAL THREATS.

PHOTONIC ENERGY BLASTS.
EFFECTIVE AGAINST MOST ANYTHING.



BOY-THING, GO,
GET SOMEWHERE
SAFE.

MRRP.

RIGHT,
LITTLE GUY.

I HATE
DEMONS
TOO.

BREATHING GUN.
EFFECTIVE WHEN IT COMES TO
SHOOTING DEMONS IN THE FACE.

"THERE'S ALWAYS
BEEN A RIDER.

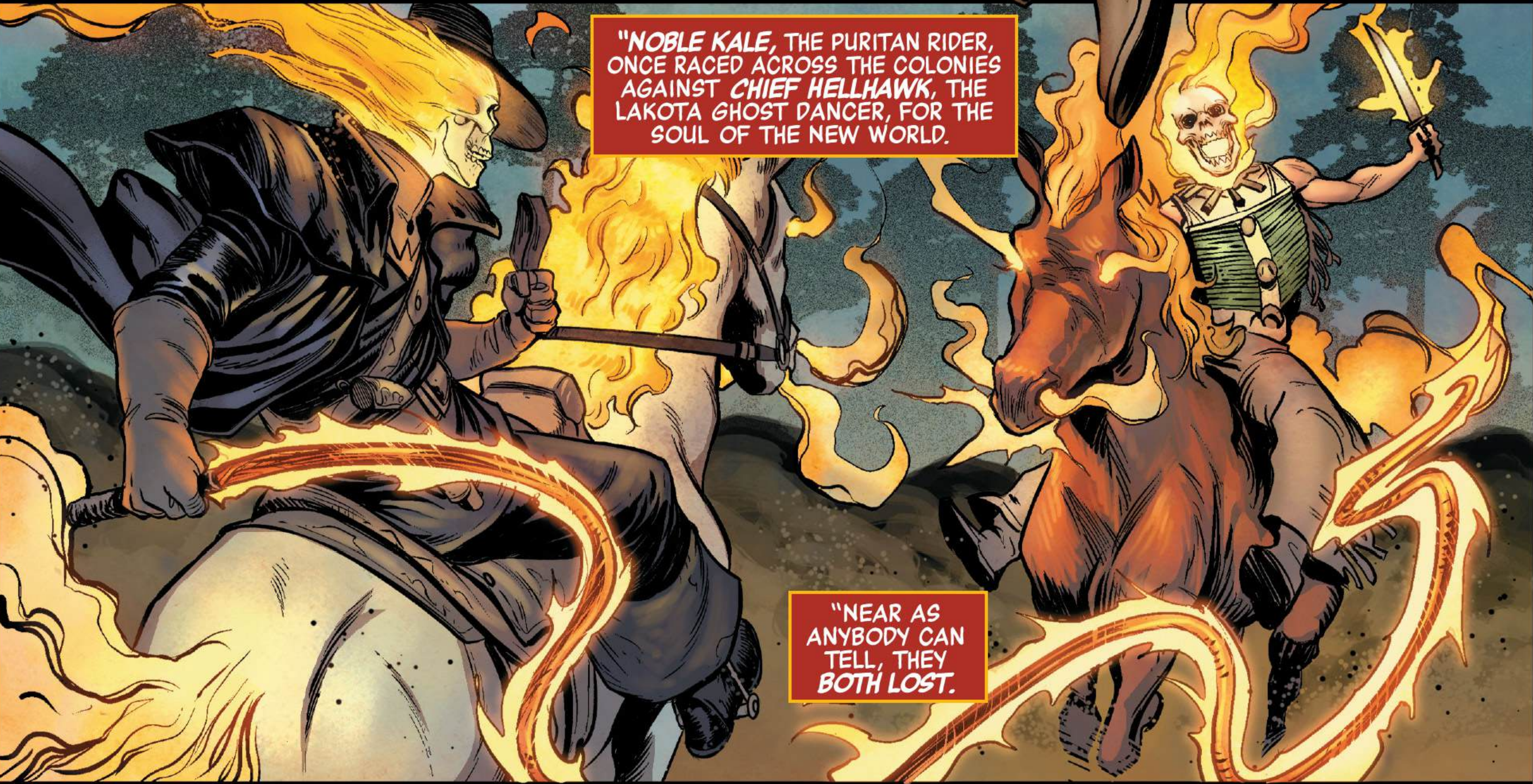
"JUST LIKE THERE HAVE ALWAYS
BEEN SINNERS IN NEED OF RIDING
DOWN. AND THE *GHOST RIDERS*
DO LOVE TO DISH OUT PENANCE.

A caveman with a long beard and a blue tunic is riding a large, dark brown mammoth. The mammoth's head is on the left, and its body extends towards the right. The caveman is holding a spear in his right hand. The background is a bright, hazy sky with some clouds. The mammoth's head is turned towards the left, and its mouth is open, showing its teeth. The caveman is looking back over his shoulder at the reader.

"ALMOST AS MUCH
AS THEY LOVE A
GOOD RACE."

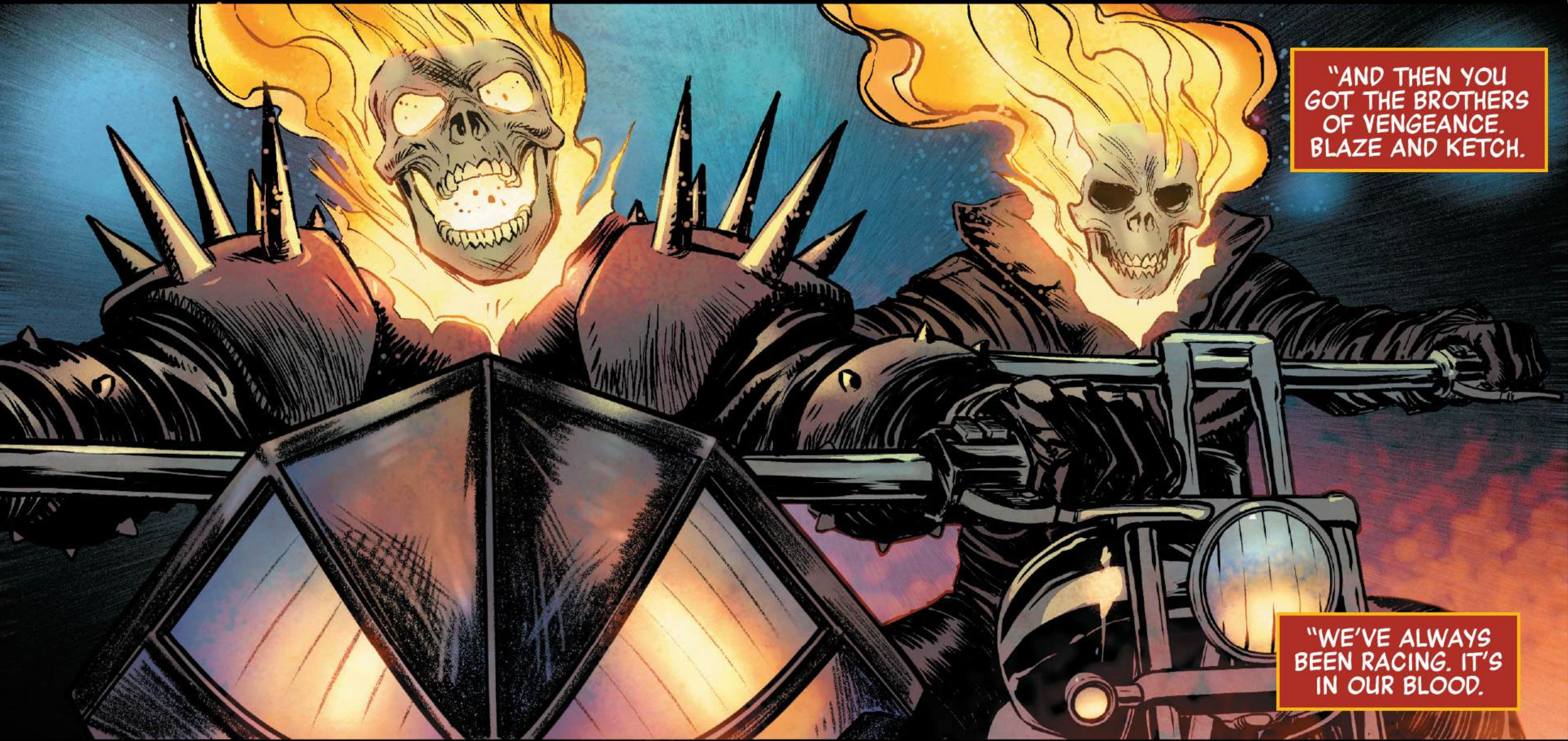
"THE FIRST GHOST RIDER
CHALLENGE WAS IN
PREHISTORIC TIMES,
BACK WHEN THE SPIRIT
OF VENGEANCE RODE
A FLAMING **MAMMOTH**."

"THERE WAS ONLY
ONE RIDER AROUND
THEN, BUT...THAT OLD
CAVEMAN GHOSTIE
STILL FOUND
SOMEBODY TO RACE."

Two Ghost Riders are racing. On the left, a Ghost Rider with a black skull and a black leather jacket is riding a white horse. On the right, a Ghost Rider with a white skull and a green vest is riding a brown horse. Both horses are galloping towards the right. The background is a dark, hazy sky with some clouds. The Ghost Rider on the left is holding a flaming whip, and the Ghost Rider on the right is holding a flaming knife.

"NOBLE KALE, THE PURITAN RIDER,
ONCE RACED ACROSS THE COLONIES
AGAINST **CHIEF HELLHAWK**, THE
LAKOTA GHOST DANCER, FOR THE
SOUL OF THE NEW WORLD."

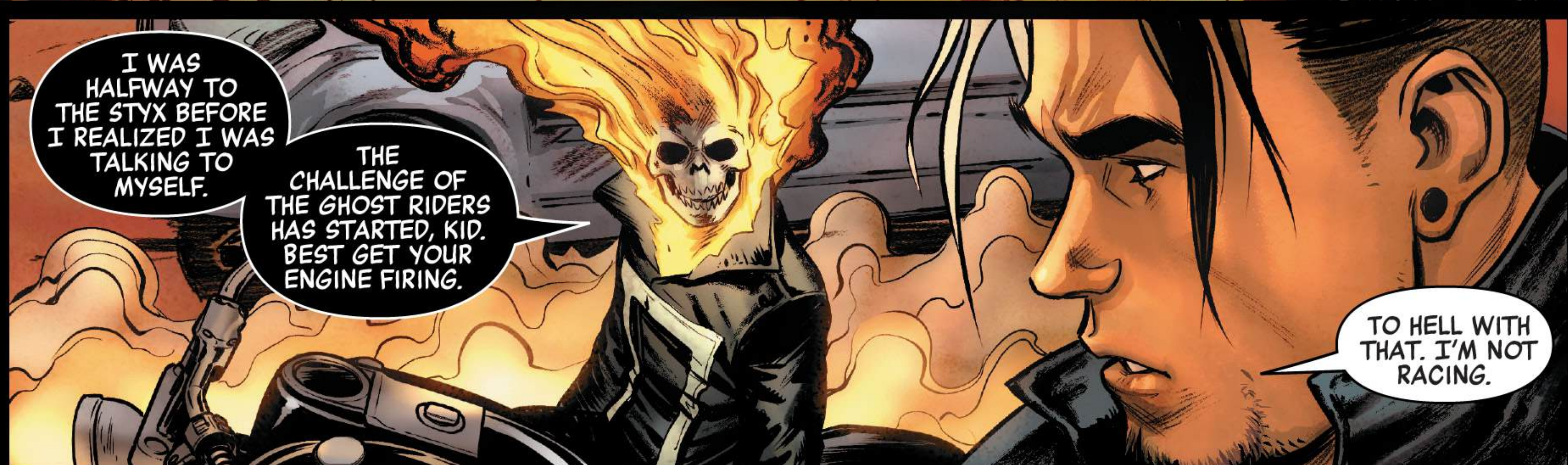
"NEAR AS
ANYBODY CAN
TELL, THEY
BOTH LOST."

Two Ghost Riders are on motorcycles. The Ghost Rider on the left has a black skull and is wearing a black leather jacket. The Ghost Rider on the right has a white skull and is wearing a black leather jacket. Both are riding towards the right. The background is a dark, hazy sky with some clouds. The Ghost Rider on the left is holding a flaming whip, and the Ghost Rider on the right is holding a flaming knife.

"AND THEN YOU
GOT THE BROTHERS
OF VENGEANCE.
BLAZE AND KETCH."

"WE'VE ALWAYS
BEEN RACING. IT'S
IN OUR BLOOD."

"ALONG WITH
THE HELLFIRE."





WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT RACING? YOU'RE A RIDER, AREN'T YOU? RACING'S IN OUR BLOOD, ALONG WITH THE--

I DON'T WANNA BE A GHOST RIDER ANYMORE. I WAS TRYING TO GET RID OF THIS DAMN CURSE WHEN YOU PULLED ME DOWN HERE.



HELLSTORM. EXORCISM. YEAH, I KNOW. THAT WAS NEVER GONNA WORK.

THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE WON'T LET GO OF YOUR SOUL THAT EASY, ROBBIE. NOT WITHOUT EXACTING A TERRIBLE PRICE.

YOU SAID YOU WANTED MY POWER, BLAZE? THEN TAKE IT! I FORFEIT YOUR STUPID RACE!

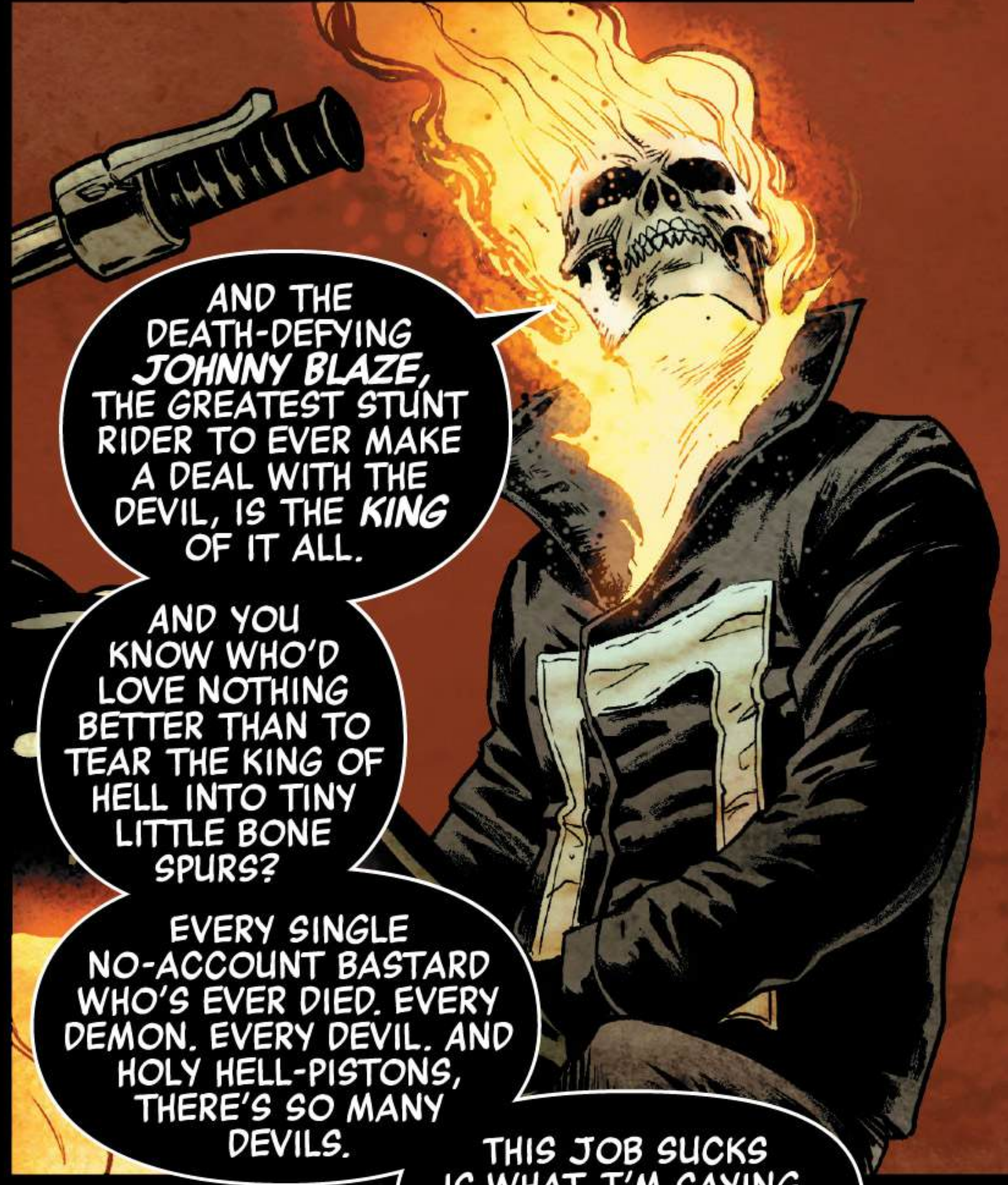


HEH. KID. YOU'RE REALLY THE **WORST** GHOST RIDER EVER, YOU KNOW THAT?

LOOK AROUND YOU. YOU KNOW WHAT THIS PLACE IS?

THE SANTA MONICA FREEWAY?

THIS IS **HELL**, ROBBIE REYES. THE KINGDOM OF THE DAMNED.

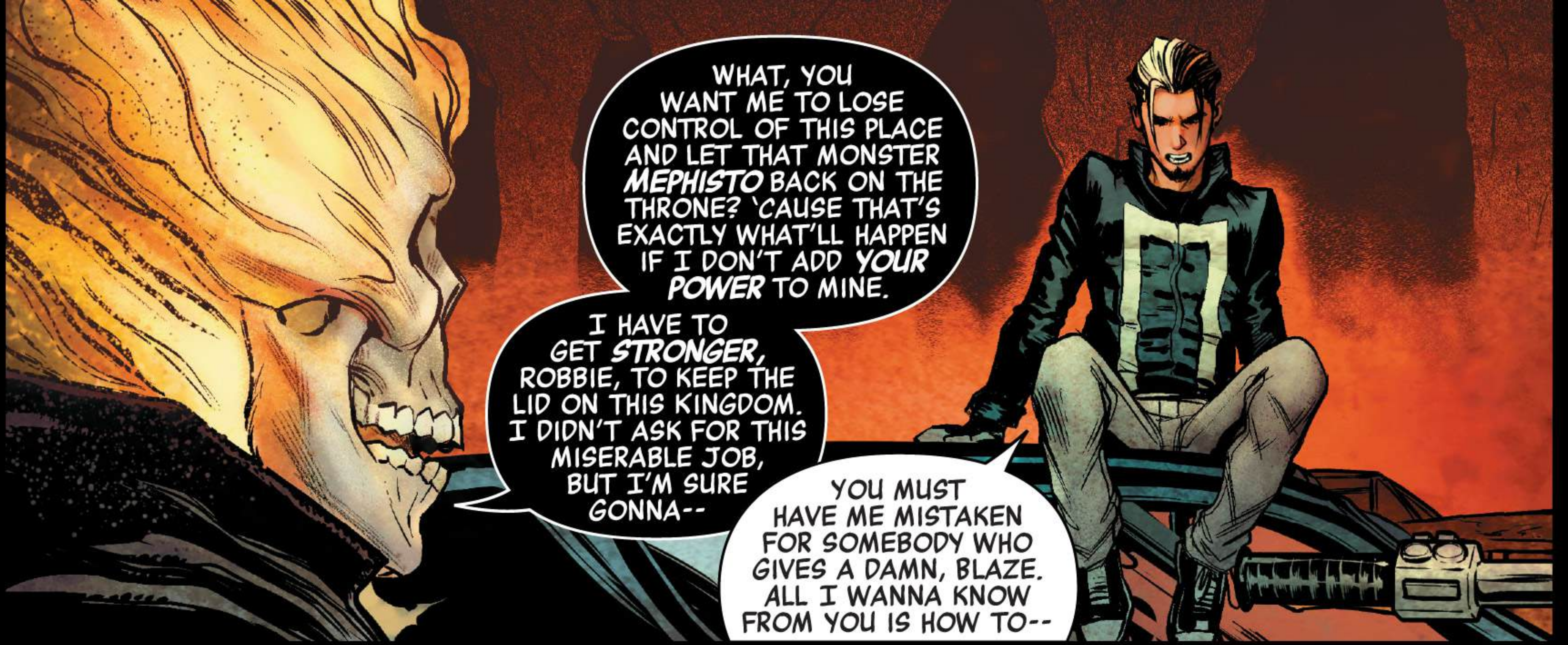


AND THE DEATH-DEFYING **JOHNNY BLAZE**, THE GREATEST STUNT RIDER TO EVER MAKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL, IS THE **KING** OF IT ALL.

AND YOU KNOW WHO'D LOVE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO TEAR THE KING OF HELL INTO TINY LITTLE BONE SPURS?

EVERY SINGLE NO-ACCOUNT BASTARD WHO'S EVER DIED. EVERY DEMON. EVERY DEVIL. AND HOLY HELL-PISTONS, THERE'S SO MANY DEVILS.

THIS JOB SUCKS IS WHAT I'M SAYING, ROBBIE. BUT LIKE IT OR NOT...IT'S **MINE**.



WHAT, YOU WANT ME TO LOSE CONTROL OF THIS PLACE AND LET THAT MONSTER **MEPHISTO** BACK ON THE THRONE? 'CAUSE THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF I DON'T ADD **YOUR POWER** TO MINE.

I HAVE TO GET **STRONGER**, ROBBIE, TO KEEP THE LID ON THIS KINGDOM. I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS MISERABLE JOB, BUT I'M SURE GONNA--

YOU MUST HAVE ME MISTAKEN FOR SOMEBODY WHO GIVES A DAMN, BLAZE. ALL I WANNA KNOW FROM YOU IS HOW TO--



WHOOA!



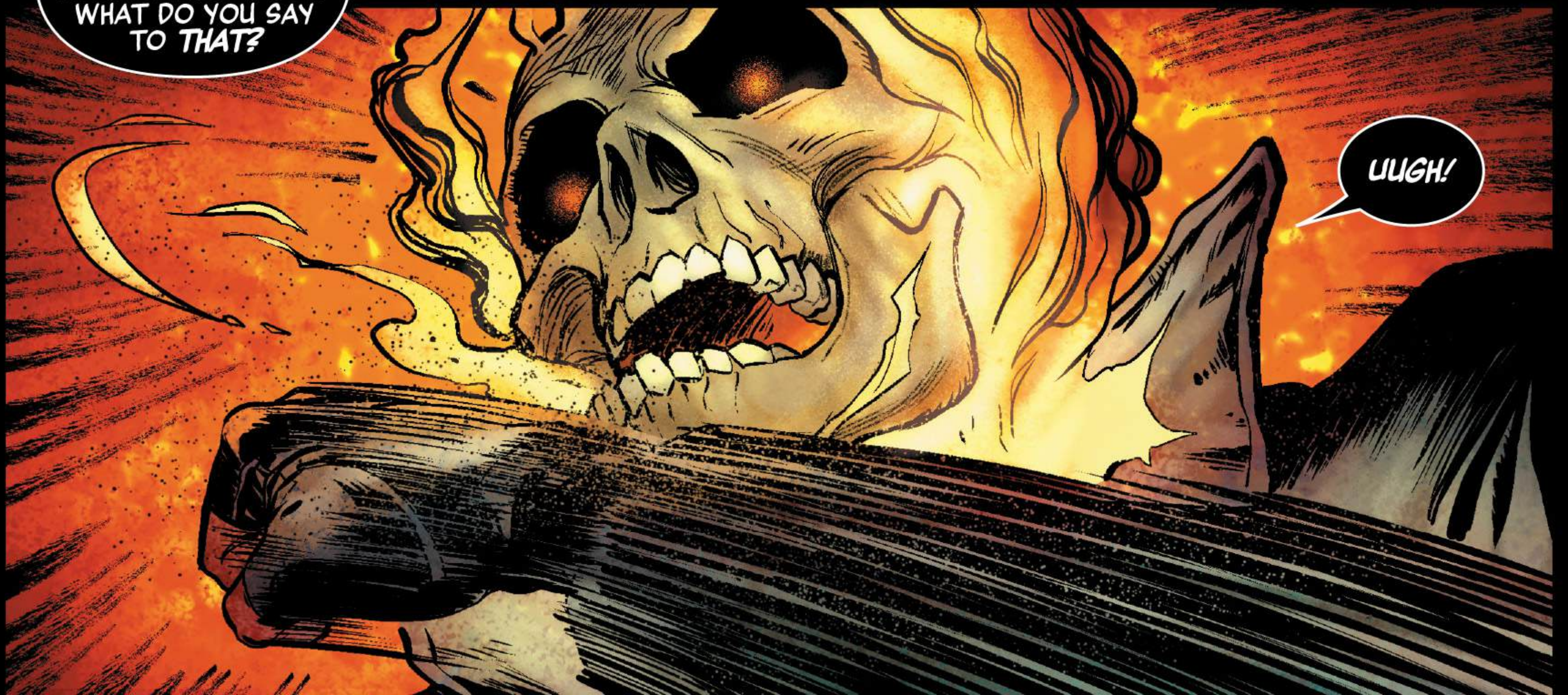
ALL RIGHT, SMART-ASS. NO MORE BABYING THE NEW GUY. LISTEN UP, BECAUSE THE KING OF HELL IS TALKING.

YOU'RE GONNA **RACE** ME FOR YOUR POWER.

OR I'M GONNA TAKE YOUR BROTHER, **GABE**, FOR A RIDE.

WHAT...

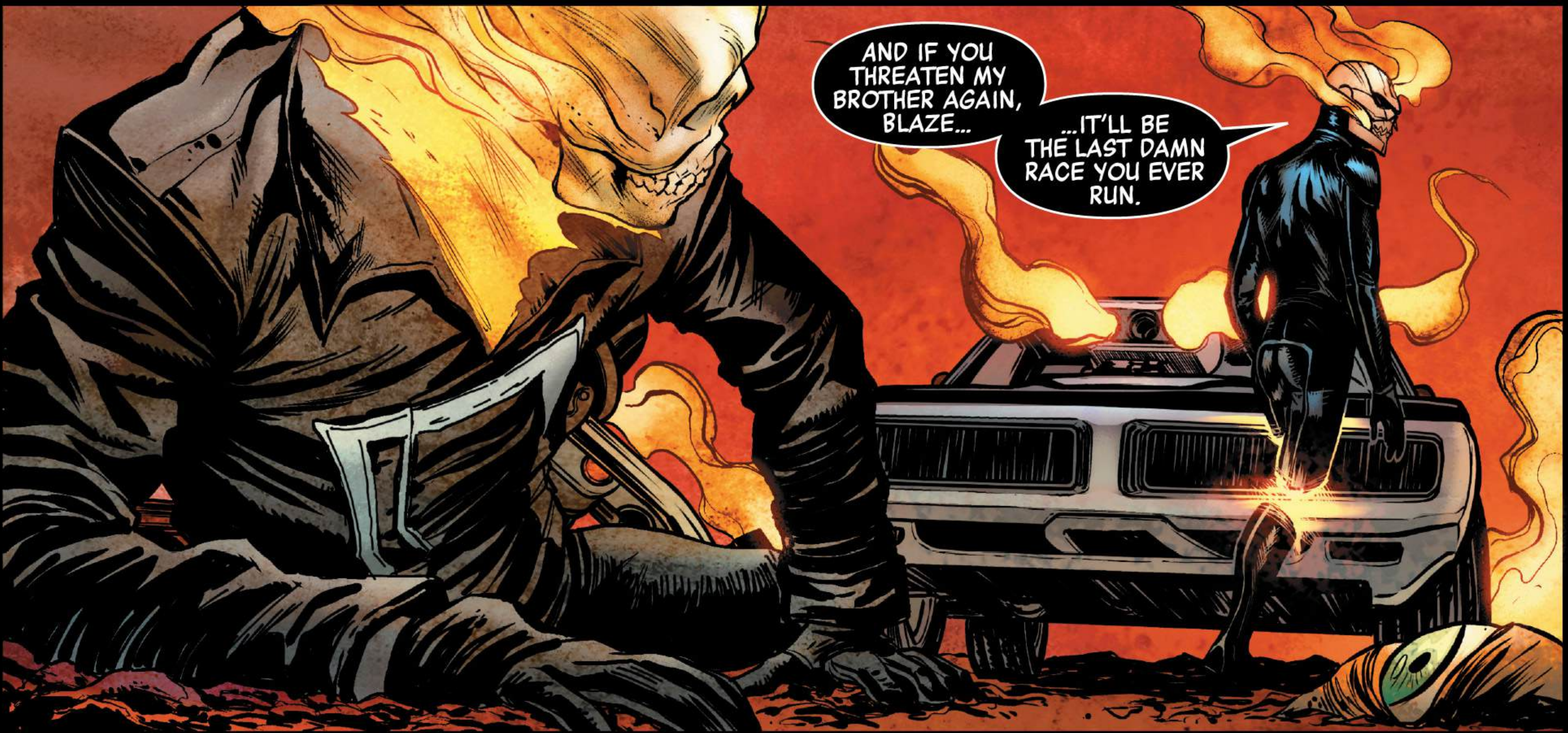
ONE THAT ENDS WITH HIS SWEET LITTLE SOUL ALL IN FLAMES. NOW WHAT DO YOU SAY TO **THAT**?



UUGH!

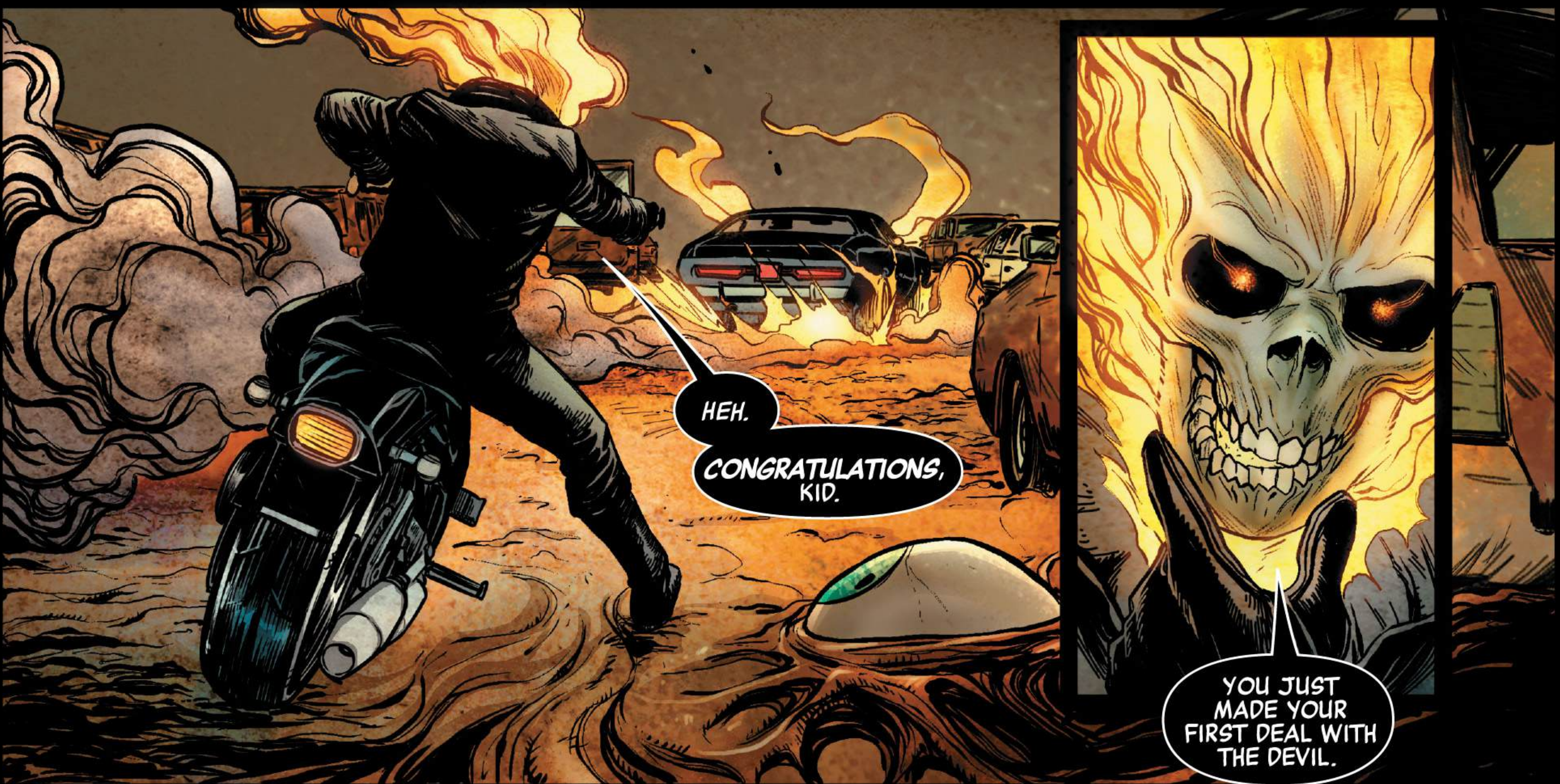


I SAY
YOU GOT
YOURSELF
A RACE.



AND IF YOU
THREATEN MY
BROTHER AGAIN,
BLAZE...

...IT'LL BE
THE LAST DAMN
RACE YOU EVER
RUN.



HEH.

CONGRATULATIONS,
KID.



YOU JUST
MADE YOUR
FIRST DEAL WITH
THE DEVIL.



"NOW YOU'RE A
GHOST RIDER."



RGH. I GREW UP FISHING FOR LEPEESHARKS WITH MY OWN SOUL-SCABS FOR BAIT ALONG THE BLOOD-DRENCHED BANKS OF THE RIVER STYX. IF YOU THINK I CANNOT SNARE ONE PALTRY...

GRRGGGH!

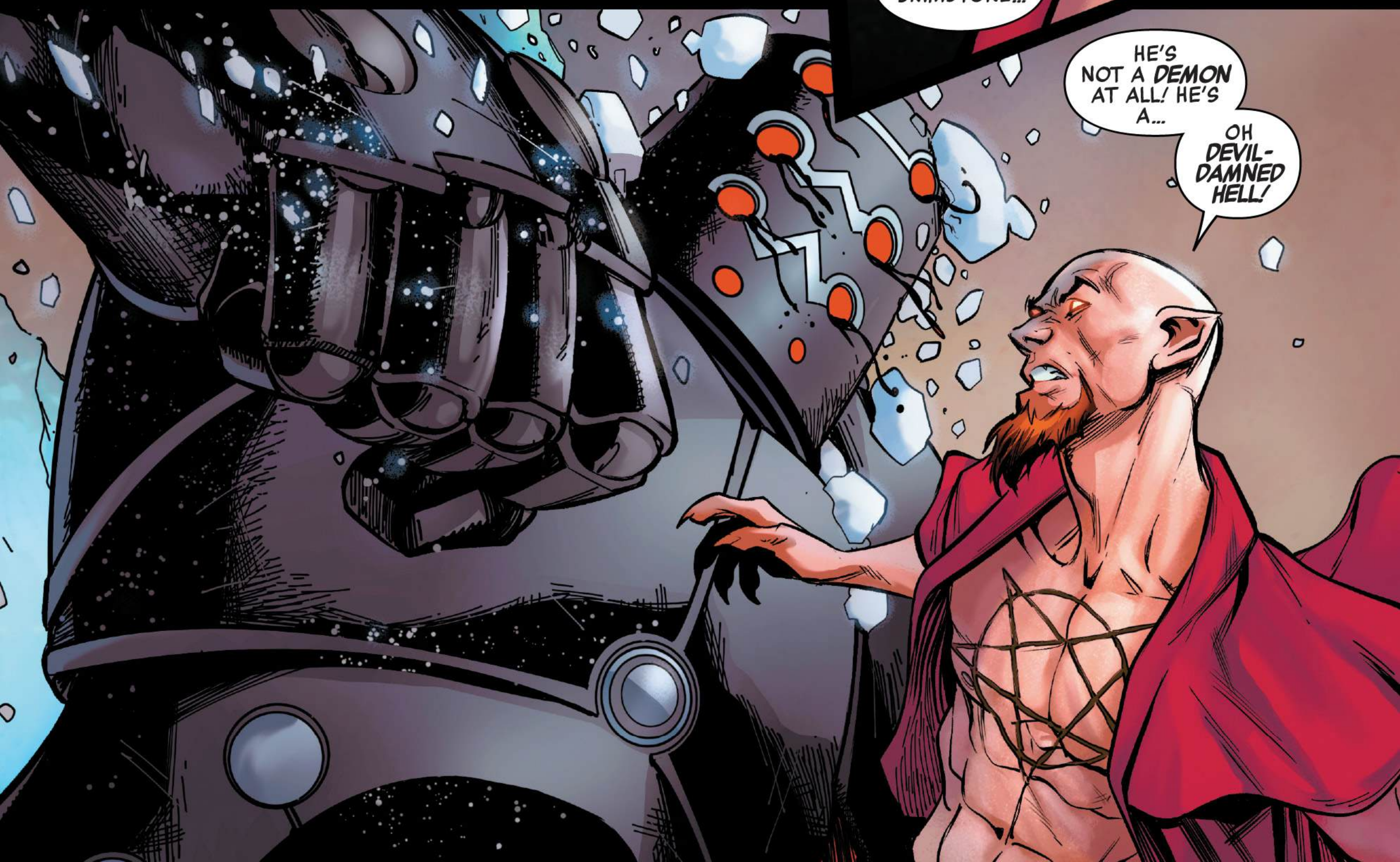


I HAVE HIM. YOUR INTRUDER. I'VE SUNK A HOOK INTO HIS SPIRIT-SKIN. NOT ENOUGH TO REEL HIM IN, BUT I CAN SEE INSIDE HIS MIND.

I SEE... DEATH. HEAPING MOUNDS OF BODIES. WHOEVER HE IS, HE MAY VERY WELL BE THE FINEST **MASS MURDERER** THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN.

BUT HE'S NOT OF THIS TIME, NOT EXACTLY. HE WAS PULLED INTO HELL...BY **KING BLAZE**. BUT BEFORE THAT... HE SERVED...HE...

HOLY BRIMSTONE...



HE'S NOT A **DEMON** AT ALL! HE'S A...

OH **DEVIL-DAMNED HELL!**



HELLSTROM,
COME IN?

WE MAY
HAVE LOST OUR
EXORCIST.

WHOA!
NOT JUST
THAT!



WE'VE LOST
THE WHOLE
MOUNTAIN!

THE CELESTIAL...
IS *MOVING*. THE POWER
REQUIRED TO ANIMATE AN
ENTIRE ALPHA CELESTIAL...
IS ALMOST BEYOND
IMAGINING.

ALL I'M
IMAGINING RIGHT
NOW IS US BEING
CRUSHED TO
DEATH!



T'CHALLA!

TELEPORTER IS
OFFLINE. ACTIVATING
EMERGENCY VIBRANIUM
GENERATORS.

THIS IS
WHAT WE GET
FOR DECIDING
TO LIVE INSIDE A
GIANT DEAD
GUY!

RRRGH, I
CAN'T HOLD
IT FOR...

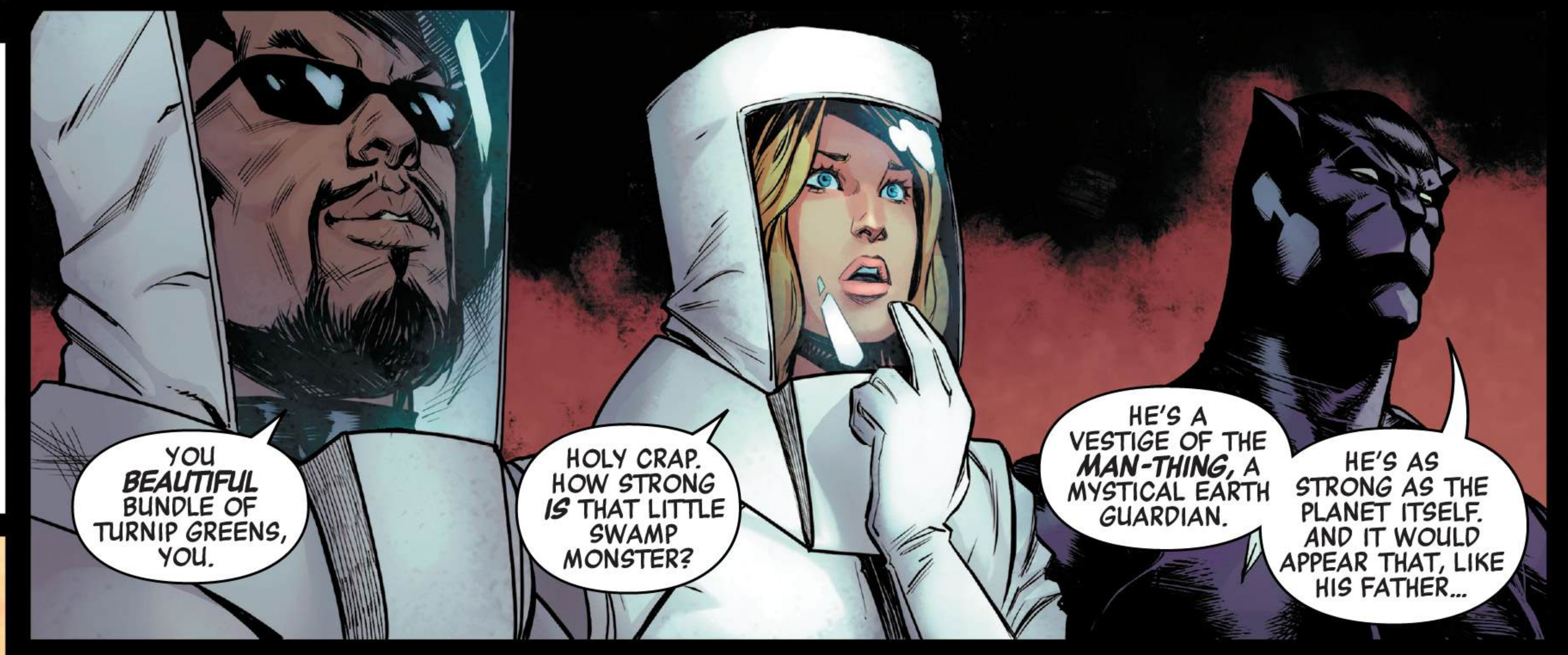


WHAT
THE...



BOY-
THING!

MRRP!



YOU
BEAUTIFUL
BUNDLE OF
TURNIP GREENS,
YOU.

HOLY CRAP.
HOW STRONG
IS THAT LITTLE
SWAMP
MONSTER?

HE'S A
VESTIGE OF THE
MAN-THING, A
MYSTICAL EARTH
GUARDIAN.

HE'S AS
STRONG AS THE
PLANET ITSELF.
AND IT WOULD
APPEAR THAT, LIKE
HIS FATHER...



HRRRRGH!!!

"...WHOEVER
BURNS AT
HIS TOUCH."



YOU'RE
HURTING IT.
GOOD.

WHERE
THE DEVIL DID
YOU AVENGERS
GET YOUR OWN
MAN-THING?

THE INVADING
SPIRIT CANNOT
POSSIBLY MAINTAIN
ITS POSSESSION. IT'S
FIGHTING TO RETURN
TO ITS NATURAL
FORM.

AND I'M
AFRAID THAT
MAY PRESENT
PROBLEMS OF
ITS OWN.

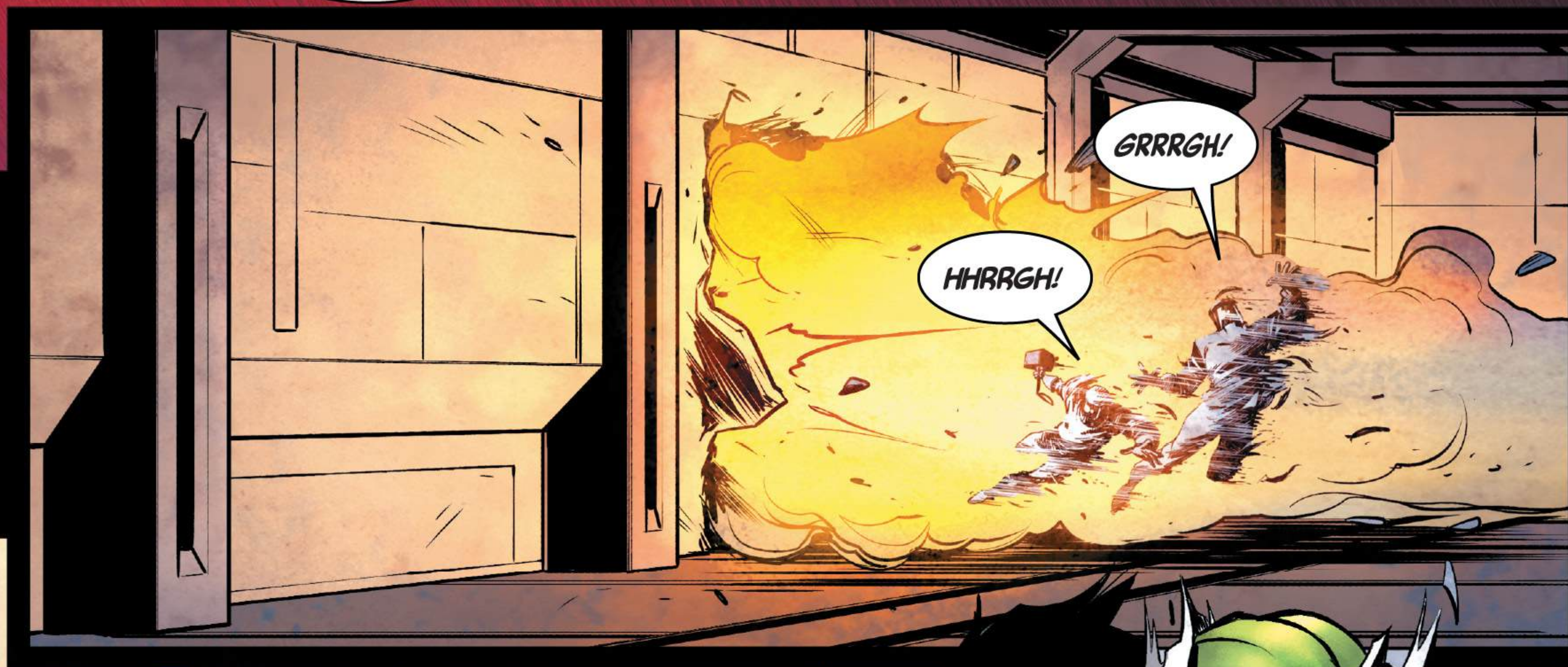


HULK AND THOR!
I'M READING POWER
SURGES IN YOUR SECTOR.
OUR GUEST IS HEADED
YOUR WAY.

UNDERSTOOD,
T'CHALLA! WE CAN
SMELL IT.

HRGH, SMELLS
LIKE OLD EGGS
INSIDE DEAD DOG
INSIDE WARTHOG.
ON FIRE.

AYE, my
LADY. SMELLS
LIKE...



GRRRGH!

HHRRGH!

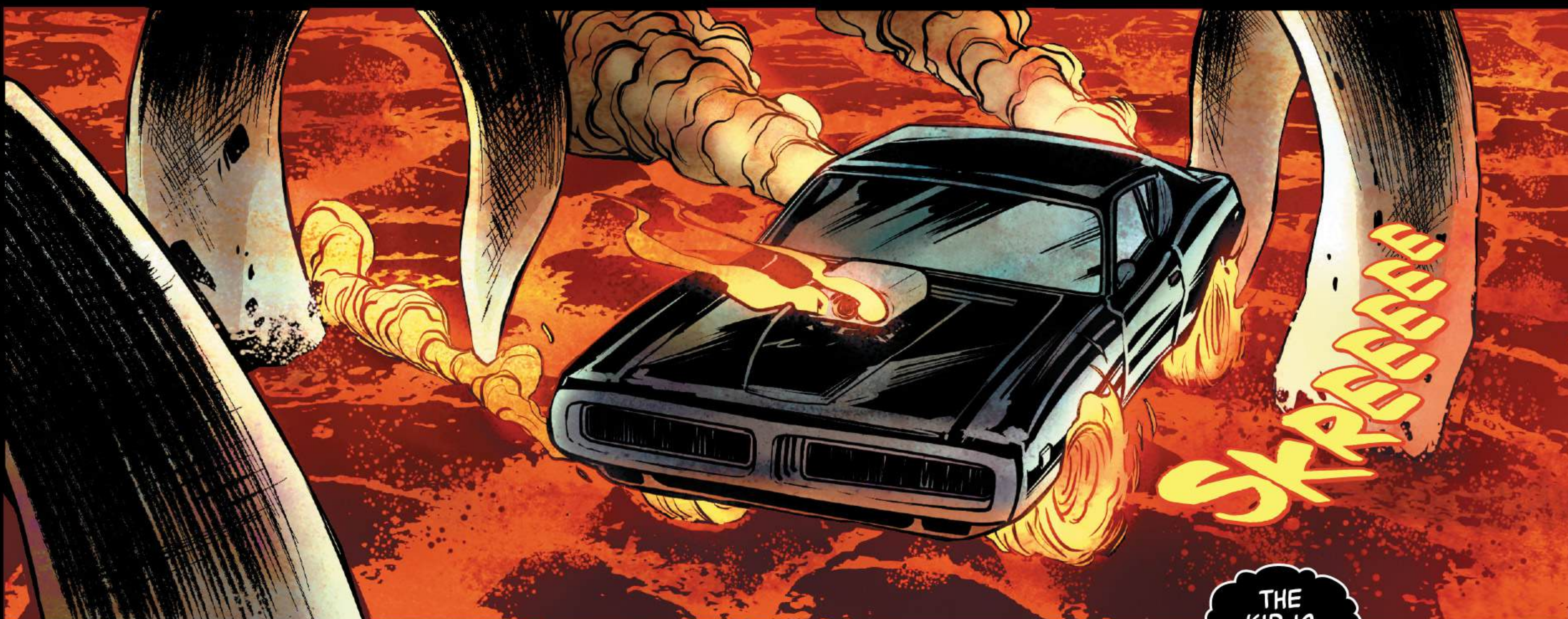


SMELLS
LIKE HELL.

THAT
NOT HELL.

HULK
SHOW YOU
HELL!

HELL.
THE GREAT LAKE OF FIRE.



THE
KID IS
GOOD.

DAMN GOOD.
EVEN IF HE STILL
DOESN'T UNDERSTAND
HALF OF WHAT THAT
CRAZY CAR OF HIS
CAN DO.

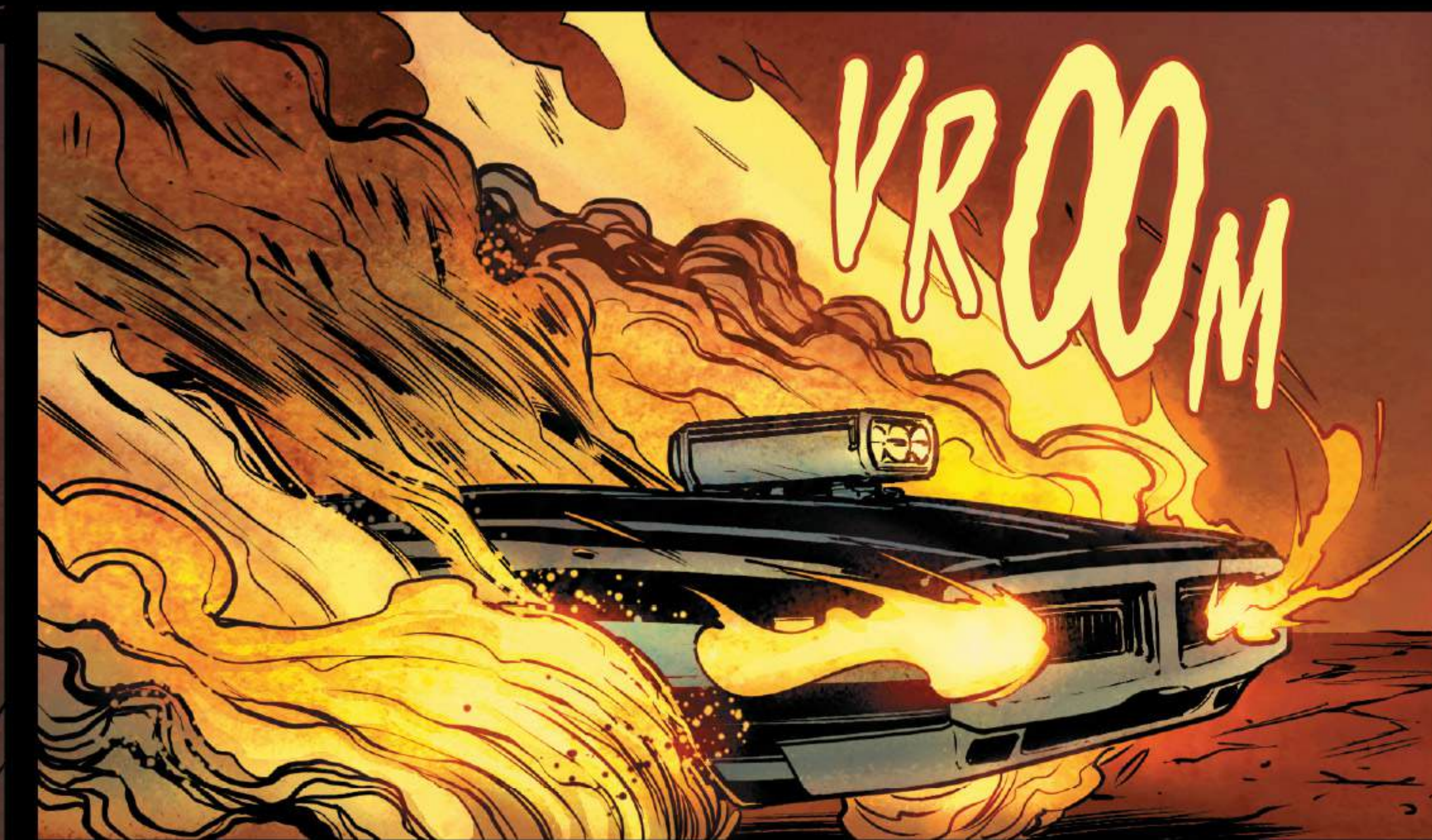
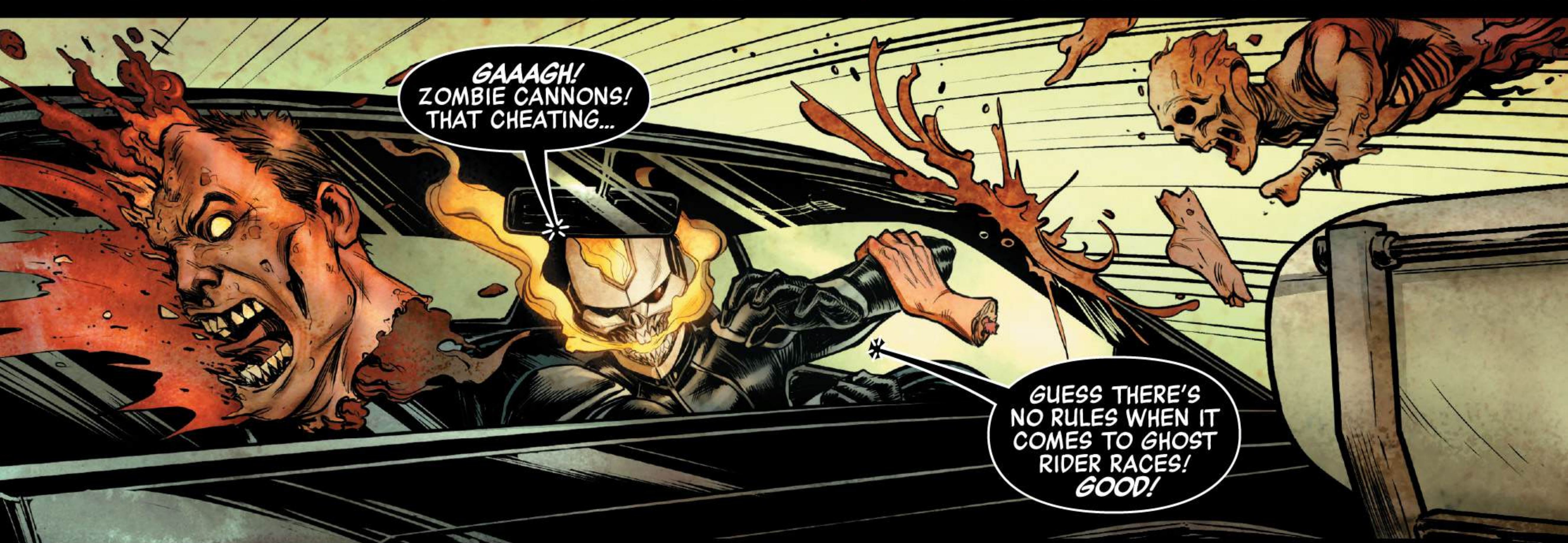
BUT THE BOY
SHOULDA KNOWN
NOBODY WINS A
RACE AGAINST
THE DEVIL...

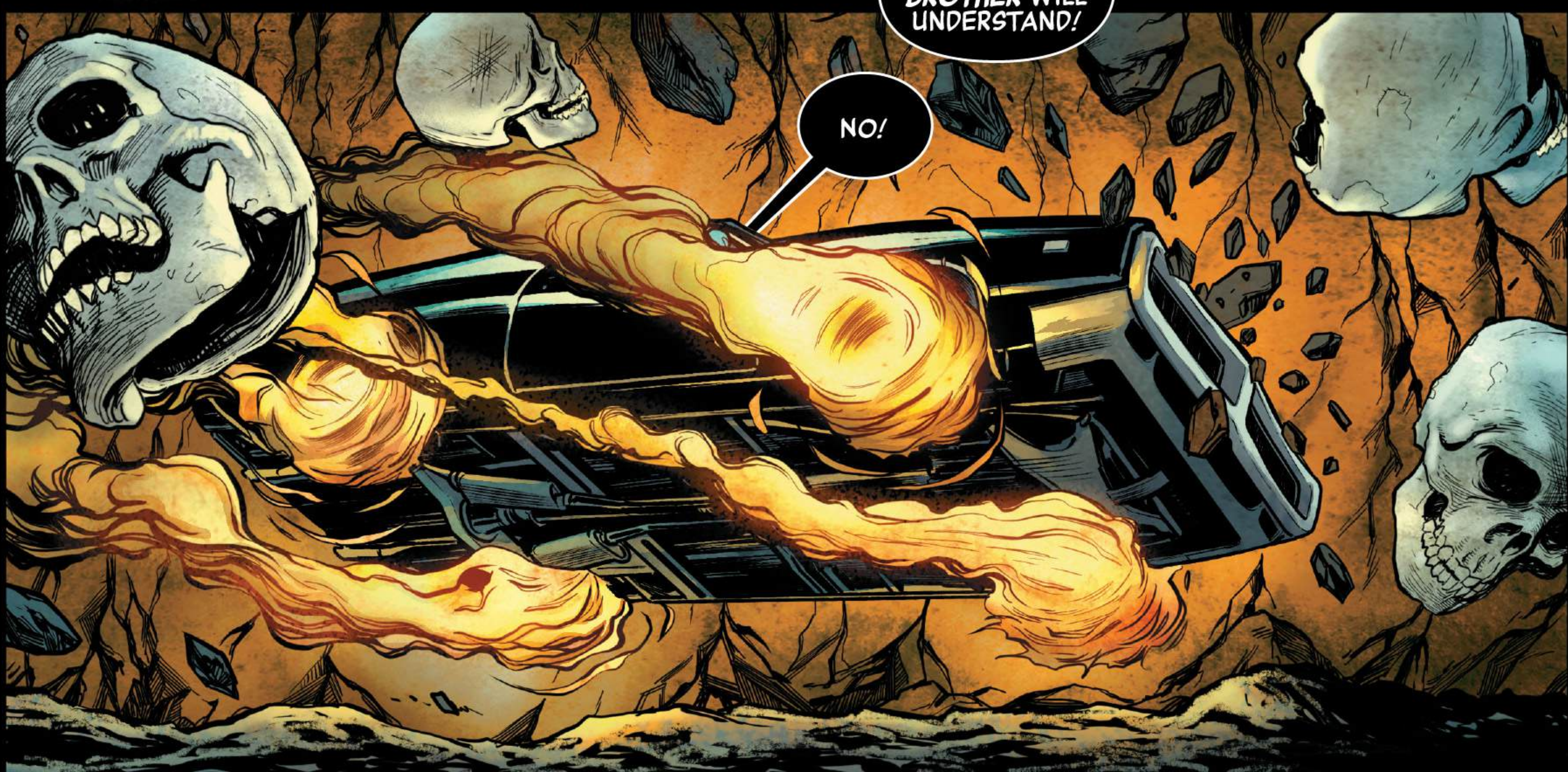
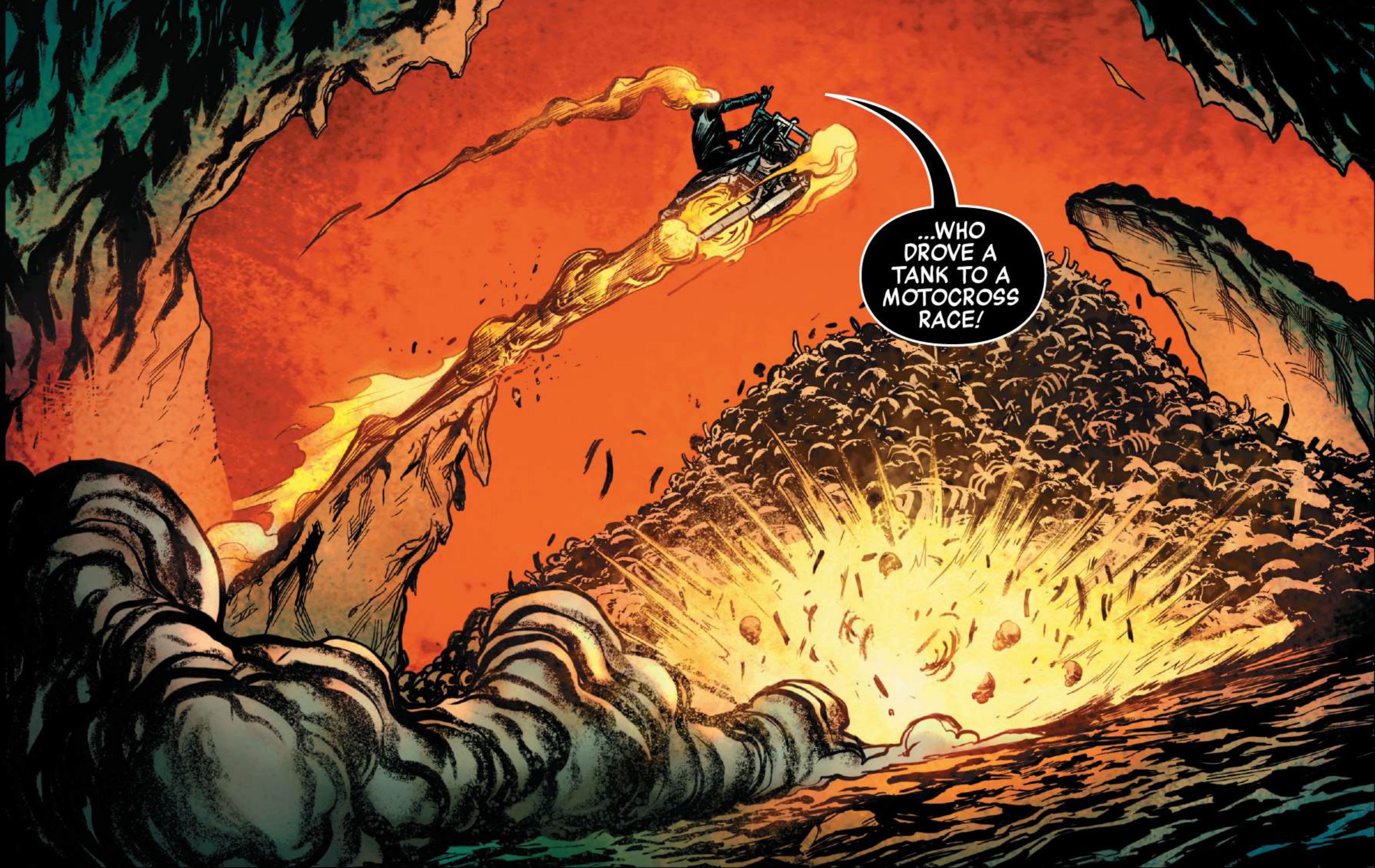


...IN THE
DEVIL'S OWN
BACKYARD.

NOW!









NO, NO, NO!
DAMMIT!

WHAT
THE HELL DO
I DO?

YOU RACE
OR YOU *DIE*,
KID. THEM'S THE
RULES.

YOU FILL
THE TIRES WITH
YOUR LAST BREATH
IF YOU GOTTA.
GREASE THE AXLE
WITH YOUR
MARROW.

YOU OPEN A
VEIN UNTIL THE GAS
TANK'S OVERFLOWING
AND THERE'S BLOOD
GUSHING OUT YOUR
BLOWER.



THAT'S THE
GHOST RIDER WAY,
ROBBIE REYES.

AND THAT'S
THE ONLY WAY
YOU'RE GONNA
BEAT BLAZE.



GRRRGH! AN EXORCISM? BAH! ALL YOU NEEDED WAS A GOD WITH A HAMMER! I'LL RID YOU OF THIS DEMON SOON ENOUGH!

THOR, DON'T KILL IT! WE STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW IT'S CONNECTED TO ROBBIE!

UGGHHK!

FINE. THOR WON'T KILL IT.

GRRGGH, HULK WILL!

THIS IS HELLSTORM--LISTEN TO ME! OUR INTRUDER ISN'T THE SAME SPIRIT WHO'S BEEN POSSESSING ROBERTO'S VEHICLE!

THIS IS SOMETHING ELSE! THIS IS KING BLAZE'S DOING!

HRRGH!

I TOLD YOU, I SAW INTO THE MIND OF THIS INTRUDER! IT'S NOT A DEMON! BUT IT DID COME FROM HELL! THE HELL OF THE FUTURE!

I JUST... SWUNG THOR LIKE A HAMMER WHILE HE WAS HOLDING HIS HAMMER. THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS LIFTING THE--

NAY!

HE WAS A HERALD OF GALACTUS AND A BUTCHER FOR THANOS! HE'S A SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE WITH THE POWER COSMIC!

A
**COSMIC
GHOST
RIDER**

IF YOU WILL!

ALSO, HE'S
COMPLETELY
INSANE!

HEH. SUPPOSE
YOU'RE RIGHT, THOR.
THERE'S NOTHING VERY
WORTHY ABOUT ME,
IS THERE?

NAME'S
FRANK
CASTLE.

I'M THE GUY
WHO'S HERE TO
MURDER THE
AVENGERS.

I WON'T
LIE...THIS IS
GONNA GET
MESSY.





RUSSELL DAUTERMAN & MATTHEW WILSON
WITH MIKE MCKONE & EDGAR DELGADO
23 FRAME VARIANT

24 CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS PART 3





WHOA.
YOU'RE ALL
GHOST RIDERS.
JUST LIKE
ME.

EXACTLY
HOW MANY
OF US **ARE**
THERE?

WE ARE
THE RIDERS
OF OLD, MY
SON.

SOME OF
US OF **VERY**
OLD.

THAT MEANS
WE'RE ALL DEADER
THAN @#%\$ NOW. BUT
WE STILL KEEP OUR FOOT
HARD ON THE PEDAL
ALL THROUGH THE
AFTERLIFE.

NEITHER
DAMNED NOR
REDEEMED. WITH NO
PLACE TO REST IN
ANY DEAD LAND.

AND THERE'VE
ALWAYS BEEN JUST
AS MANY OF US **SPIRITS**
OF VENGEANCE AS
THERE NEEDED
TO BE.

THE LESS
SAID ABOUT
THOSE **OTHERS**,
THE BETTER.
THE ONES
FROM--

NO NEED
TO GO INTO
ALL THAT RIGHT
NOW.

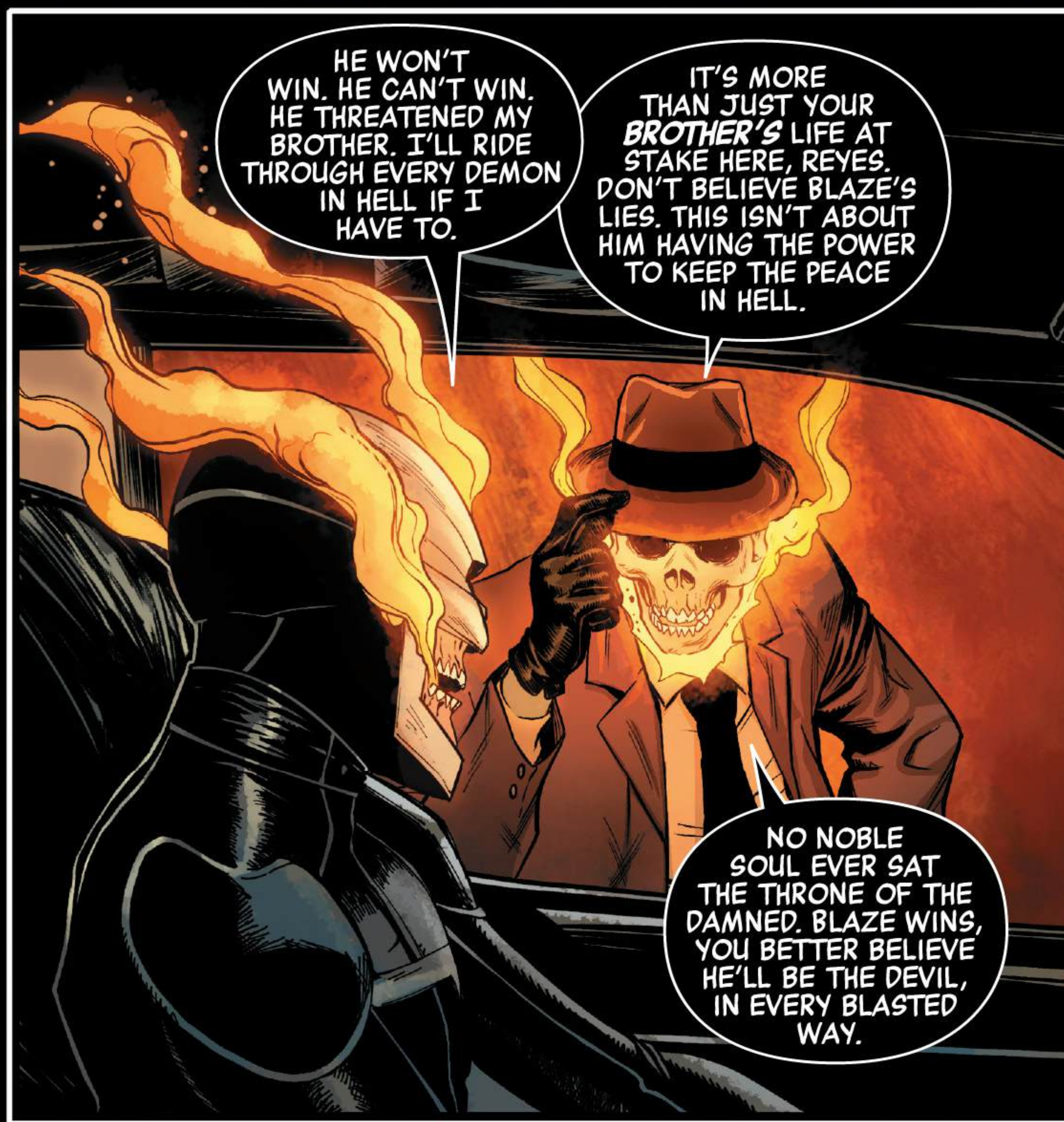
ROBBIE HERE
HAS TO FOCUS ON
HIS **RACE**. AND BEATING
THE MARROW OUTTA
KING BLAZE.

THE **HELL**
CHARGER'S ALREADY
REPAIRING ITSELF. AND
NEXT TIME I'LL BE
READY FOR BLAZE'S
TRICKS.

NEXT TIME
HE MAY VERY WELL
TEAR YOUR YOUNG,
BLUNDERING SOUL
ASUNDER, BOY.

YEAH, THAT'S
HOW MUCH OF A
LOW-DOWN **CRUMB**
OL' JOHNNY IS. BEEN
A RIDER FOR TOO
BLASTED **LONG**.
HELLFIRE TURNS
YOUR BRAIN TO
SLUGBURGER.

BLAZE IS
MORE **SPOOK**
THAN PALOOKA
NOW.



HE WON'T
WIN. HE CAN'T WIN.
HE THREATENED MY
BROTHER. I'LL RIDE
THROUGH EVERY DEMON
IN HELL IF I
HAVE TO.

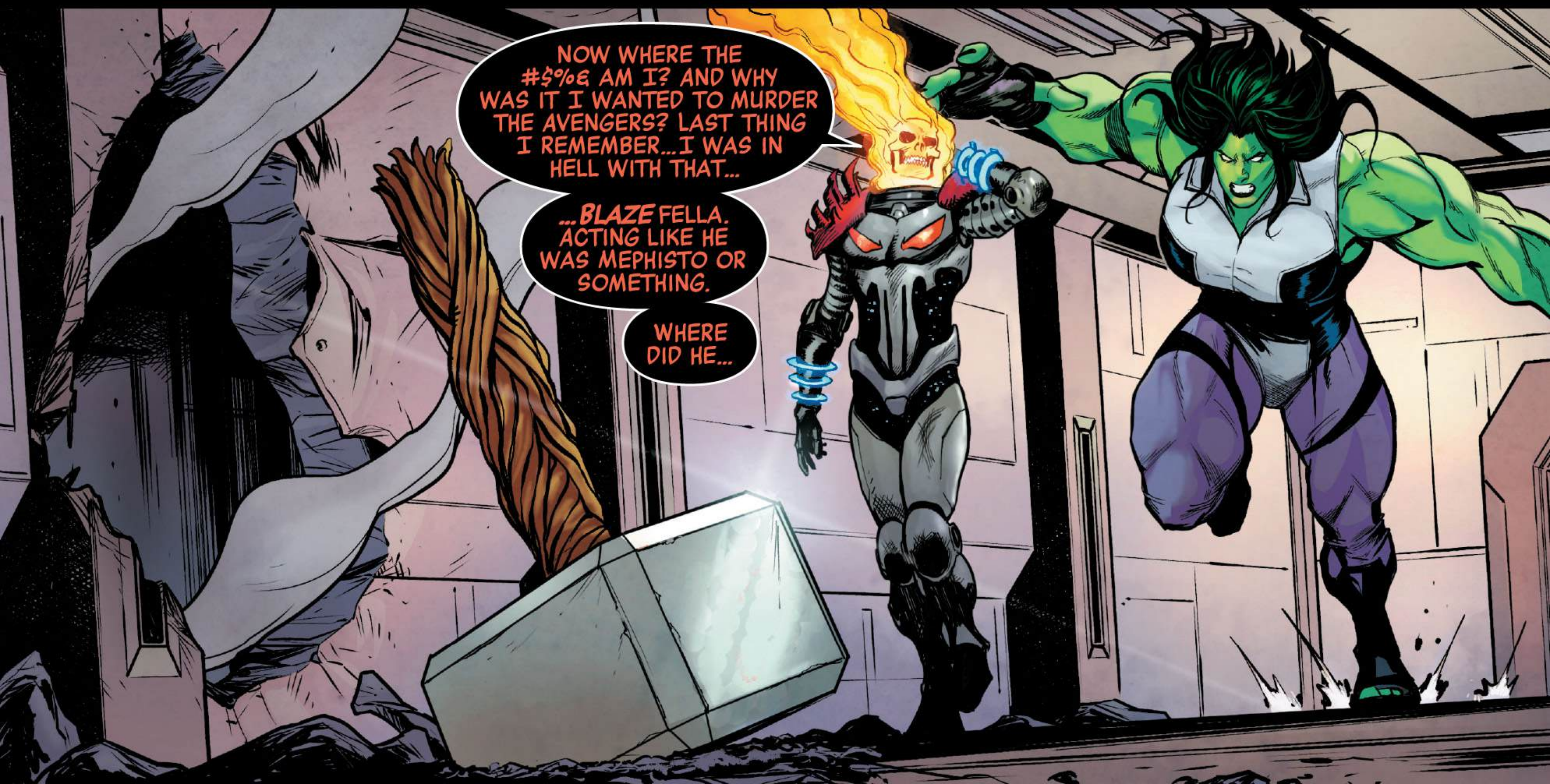
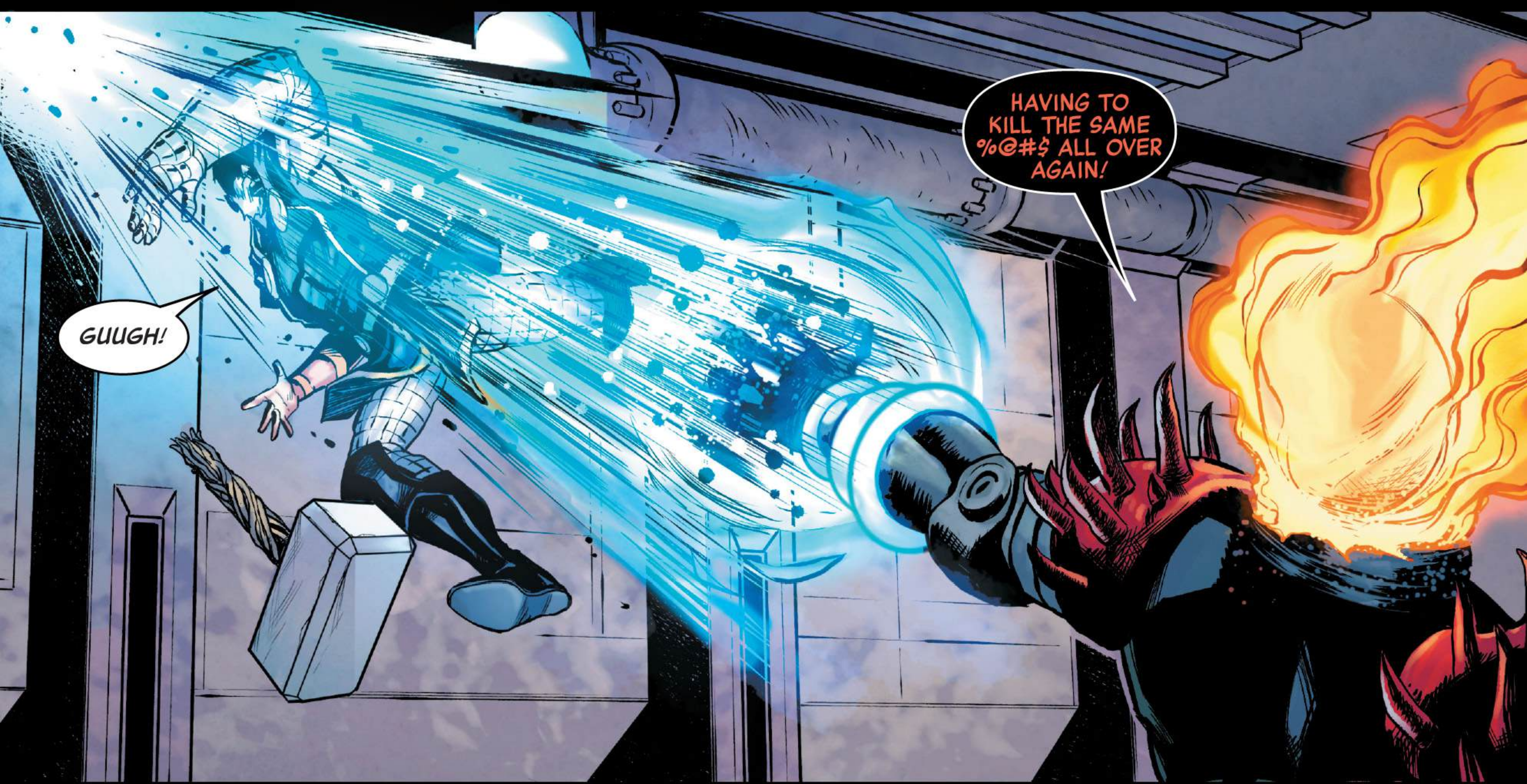
IT'S MORE
THAN JUST YOUR
BROTHER'S LIFE AT
STAKE HERE, REYES.
DON'T BELIEVE BLAZE'S
LIES. THIS ISN'T ABOUT
HIM HAVING THE POWER
TO KEEP THE PEACE
IN HELL.

NO NOBLE
SOUL EVER SAT
THE THRONE OF THE
DAMNED. BLAZE WINS,
YOU BETTER BELIEVE
HE'LL BE THE DEVIL,
IN EVERY BLASTED
WAY.



OKAY, NO
PRESSURE. JUST
THE MOST IMPORTANT
RACE OF MY LIFE. ME
AGAINST THE SCARIEST
GHOST RIDER WHO
EVER LIVED.

WELL, I
WOULDN'T GO
THAT FAR, KID.
BELIEVE IT
OR NOT...





RRRRRRRRGGGH!!!

THIS GUY
HAS ENOUGH POWER
TO POSSESS AVENGERS
MOUNTAIN AND BLAST
THOR THROUGH A WALL.
NO POINT IN HOLDING
BACK.

SHU N'NK



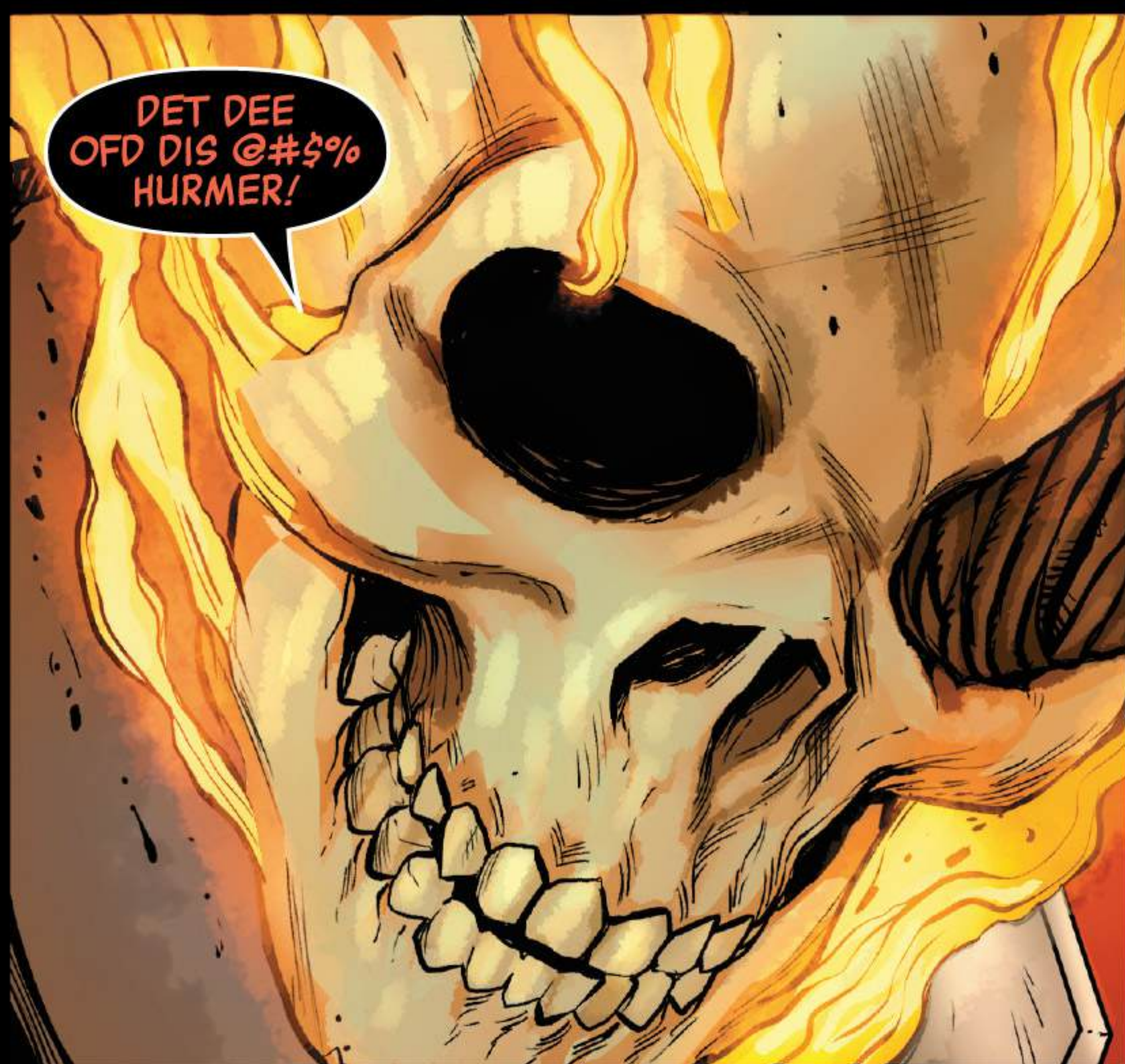
EACH PUNCH
IS LIKE A FOCUSED
GAMMA BOMB. LET'S
SEE THIS GHOST
RIDER RIDE AWAY
FROM...

MNRRRRRRGG!!!



GRRGGH!!!

GAAGH,
I'VE FELT ROBBIE'S
HELLFIRE BEFORE. THIS
ISN'T THAT. WHAT THE
HELL SORTA RIDER
IS THIS?



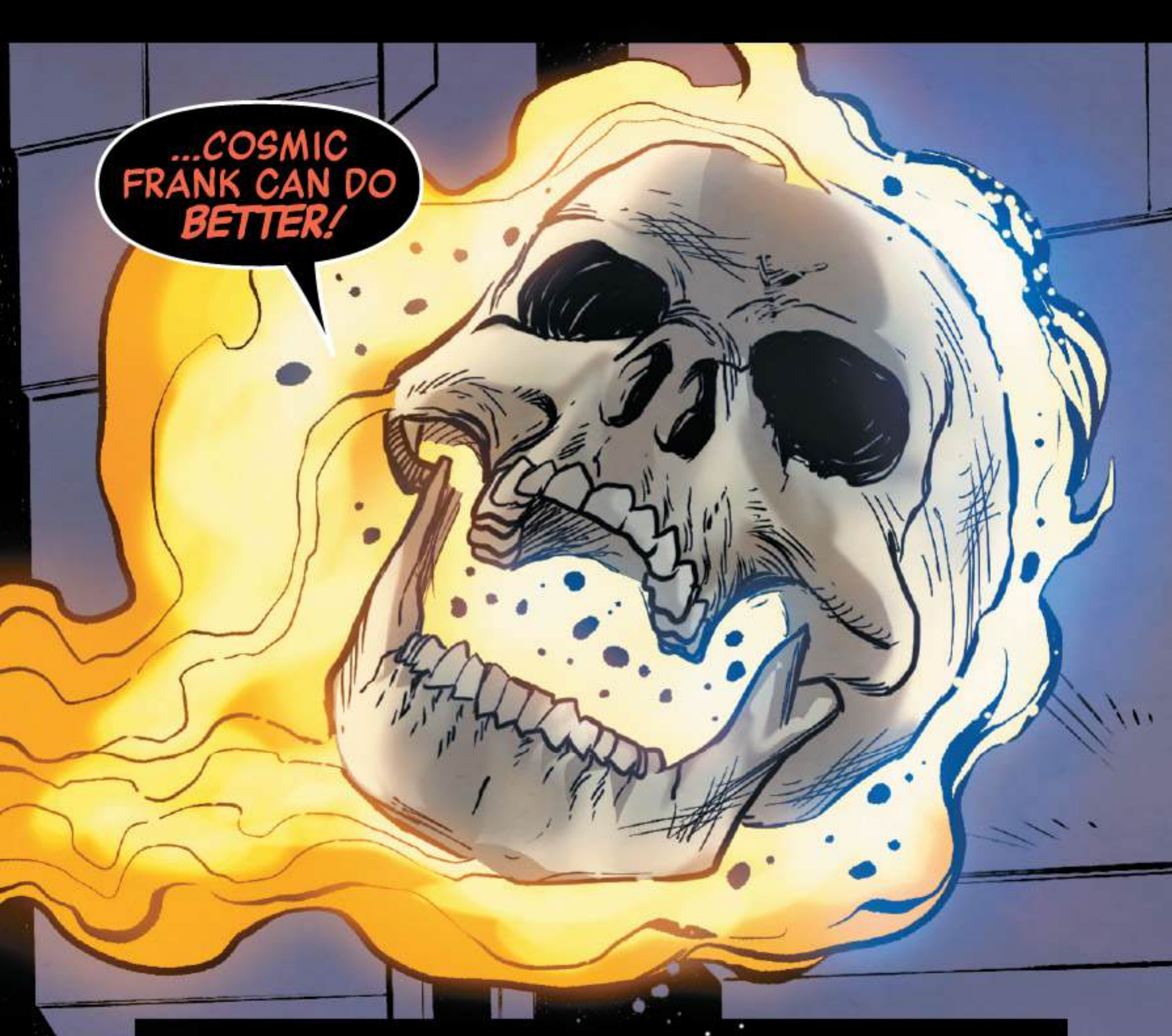
DET DEE
OFD DIS @#&%
HURMER!



GLADLY.

DOH
DELL.





...COSMIC FRANK CAN DO BETTER!



I COULD BEAT YOU BOTH TO DEATH WITH MY OWN DECAPITATED SKULL!



GUUGH!

GOD, IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE I'VE DONE THAT.



BUT FIRST TELL ME WHY YOU PEOPLE DRAGGED ME HERE, AND WHY YOU'RE WORKING FOR A BUM LIKE BLAZE.

WE DIDN'T BRING YOU HERE FROM HEL, KNAVE.

BUT WE WILL GLADLY SEND YOU BACK.

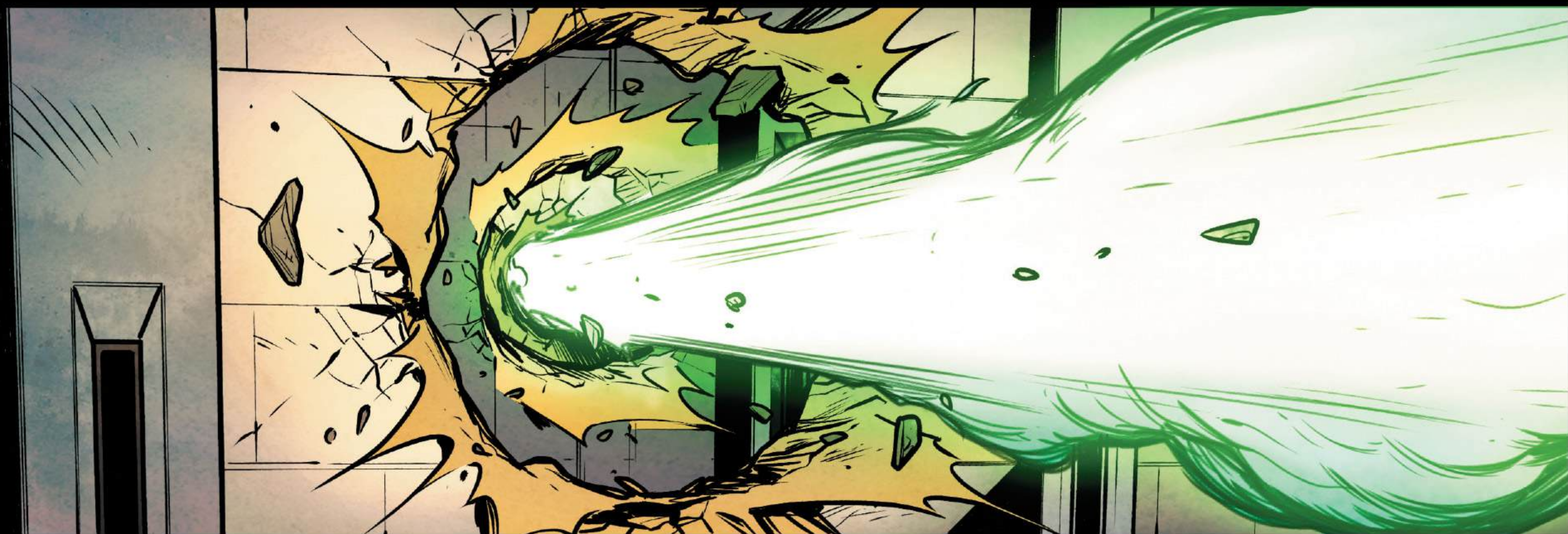
HRRGH! THUNDER SMASH!

AYE, my LADY. 'TIS TIME.



BEEN WORKING ON THIS FOR WEEKS, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE TRIED IT IN THE FIELD.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU COMBINE A FEW BOMBS' WORTH OF PURE HULK ENERGY WITH THE POWER OF THE GOD OF THUNDER?





HERE HE COMES. YOU GUYS HEARD THE BOSS.



EITHER WE SLOW THIS KID DOWN OR WE ALL GET RENDERED INTO SOUL-LARD.

HRPH. MEET THE NEW DEVIL. SAME AS THE OLD DEVIL.

NAH. AT LEAST MEPHISTO NEVER RODE A DAMN MOTOR SCOOTER.

STOP THAT HELL CHARGER! TEAR IT APART WITH YOUR TEETH IF YOU GOTTA, BUT DO NOT LET IT--



THE CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS CAN'T BE STOPPED. NOT UNTIL THERE'S A VICTOR AND A VANQUISHED. THOSE ARE THE RULES.

I SHOULD KNOW. I'M THE GHOST WHO WROTE THEM.

GRRGGH!



LEAVE THIS ROADKILL TO US, REYES! YOU GO ON AFTER BLAZE! AND DON'T TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF THE GAS, KID...

"...UNTIL THEY CAN
SMELL THE RUBBER
BURNING IN HEAVEN."

SORRY IT
HAD TO BE THIS
WAY, ROBBIE. YOU
WEREN'T SUCH
A BAD KID.

BUT YOU
CAN'T BLAME ME
FOR EVERYTHING
THAT'S HAPPENED.
BLAME YOUR
UNCLE ELI
AND...

HEY,
BLAZE!

NO
DAMN
WAY.

PUCKER
UP!

GAAARGH!

AND KISS MY
HELL CHARGER
GOODBYE!

STUPID KID.
DON'T EVEN KNOW
I'M DOING YOU A **FAVOR**.
BELIEVE ME, YOU'D BE A
WHOLE LOT WORSE OFF IF
YOU ACTUALLY **WON** THIS
THING, REYES.

BUT DON'T
WORRY, THAT WON'T
BE HAPPENING. BECAUSE
NOW I'M CALLING IN
THE **BIG GUNS**.

"SEE, WHEN YOU'RE THE KING OF HELL, IT
MEANS EVERY MURDEROUS BASTARD WHO'S
EVER DIED FALLS UNDER YOUR POWER.

"WHETHER THEY WERE SOME TWO-BIT
PSYCHO THE WORLD WILL NEVER REMEMBER..."

"...OR A SPACE GIANT WHO
ALMOST ENDED ALL LIFE
AS WE KNOW IT."

WHAT THE
HELL?!

NOT THIS
GUY AGAIN!
CALLUS THE VOID!
OF THE CELESTIAL
FINAL HOST!

LAST TIME,
IT TOOK THE
POWER OF ALL
THE AVENGERS
TO STOP
HIM!

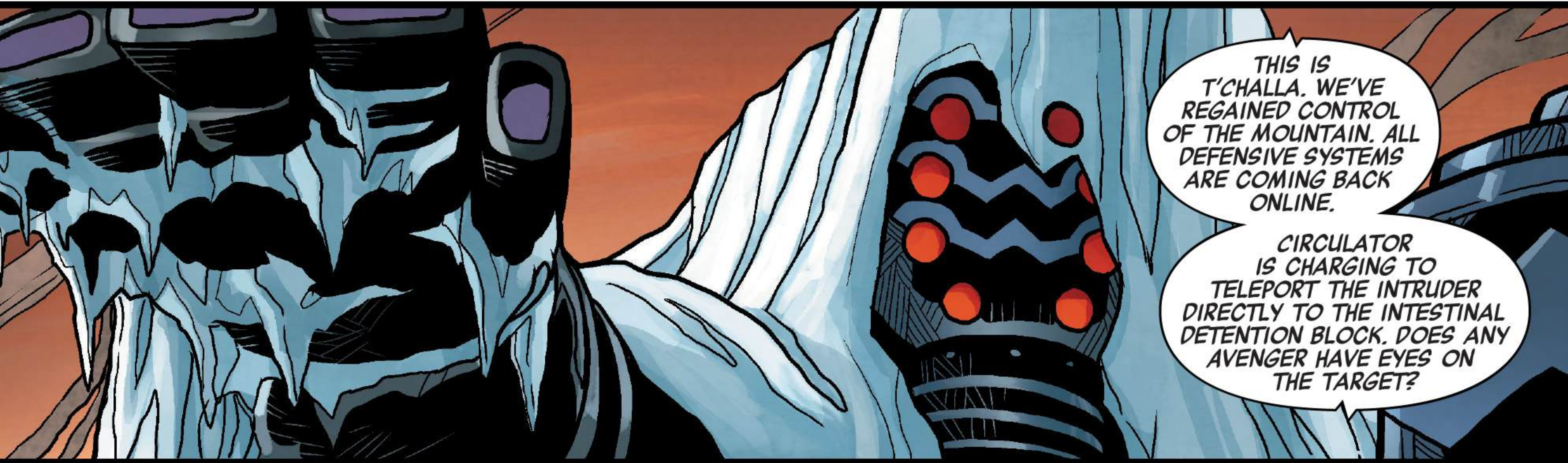
IT'S NOT
OL' CALLUS WHO'S
RUNNING THE SHOW
ANYMORE,
ROBERTO.

IMAGINE THE
POWER OF A GOD IN THE
HANDS OF YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD **SERIAL
KILLER.**

NOW IMAGINE
WHAT I'M GONNA
DO TO YOU FOR
TURNING YOUR
BACK ON ME.

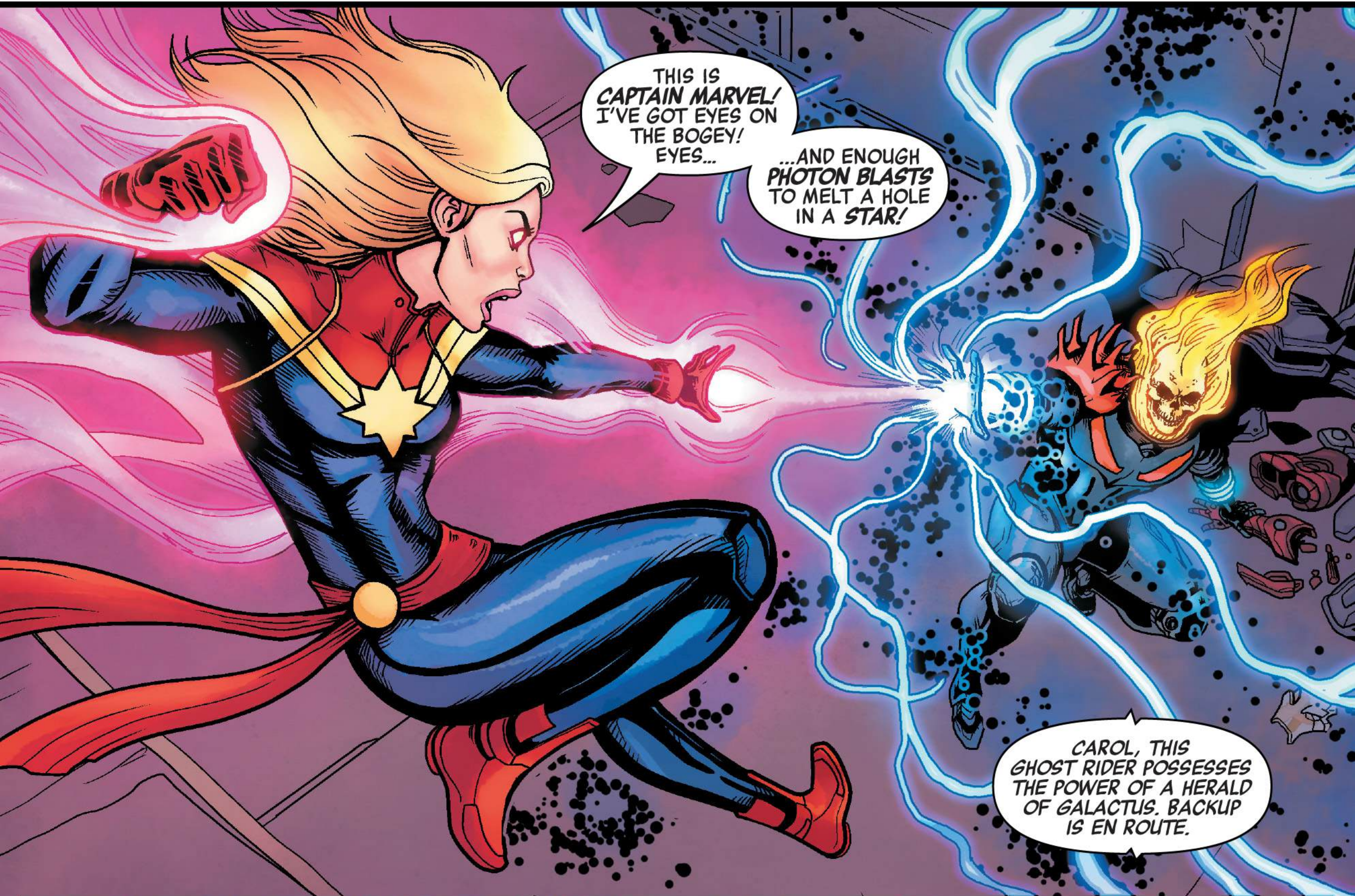
IT
CAN'T BE.
UNCLE ELI?

HA HA HA.
YOUR RACE
ENDS NOW,
**ROBBIE
REYES.**



THIS IS T'CHALLA. WE'VE REGAINED CONTROL OF THE MOUNTAIN. ALL DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS ARE COMING BACK ONLINE.

CIRCULATOR IS CHARGING TO TELEPORT THE INTRUDER DIRECTLY TO THE INTESTINAL DETENTION BLOCK. DOES ANY AVENGER HAVE EYES ON THE TARGET?



THIS IS CAPTAIN MARVEL! I'VE GOT EYES ON THE BOGEY! EYES...

...AND ENOUGH PHOTON BLASTS TO MELT A HOLE IN A STAR!

CAROL, THIS GHOST RIDER POSSESSES THE POWER OF A HERALD OF GALACTUS. BACKUP IS EN ROUTE.



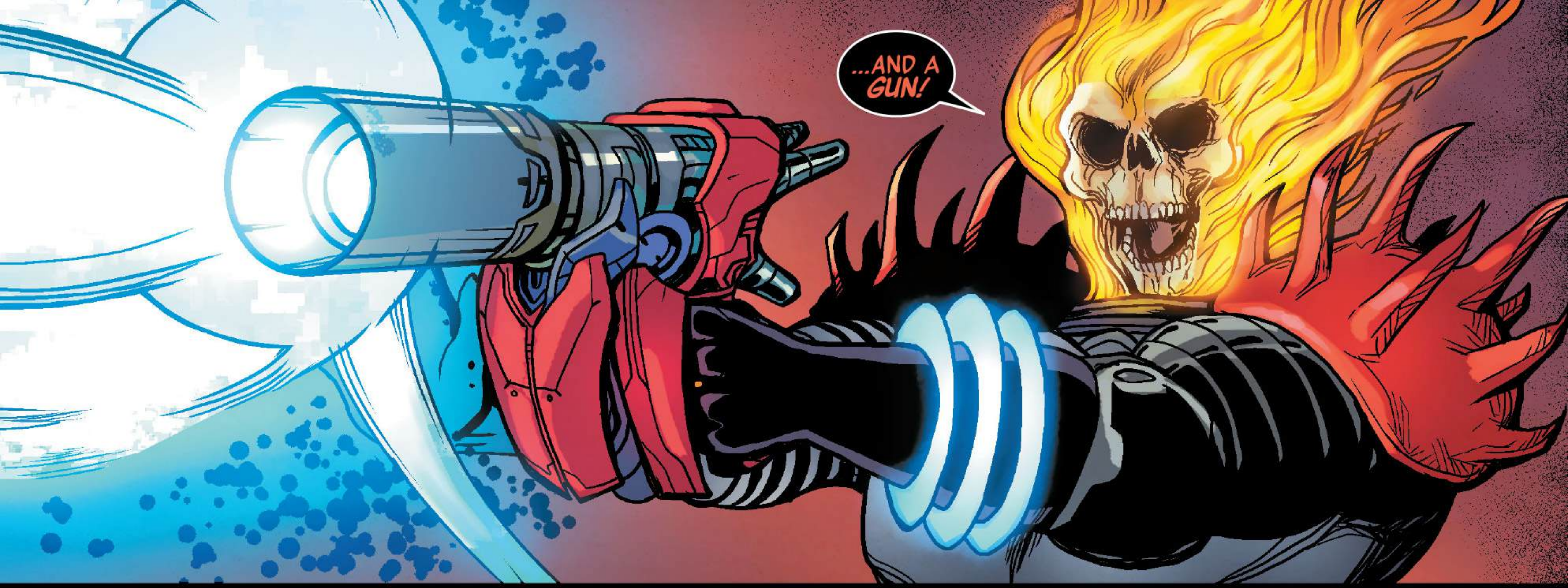
£#&@ THE POWER COSMIC! I ATE TWO BOWLS OF CEREAL THIS MORNING!

THIS IS WHAT I LIVE FOR!

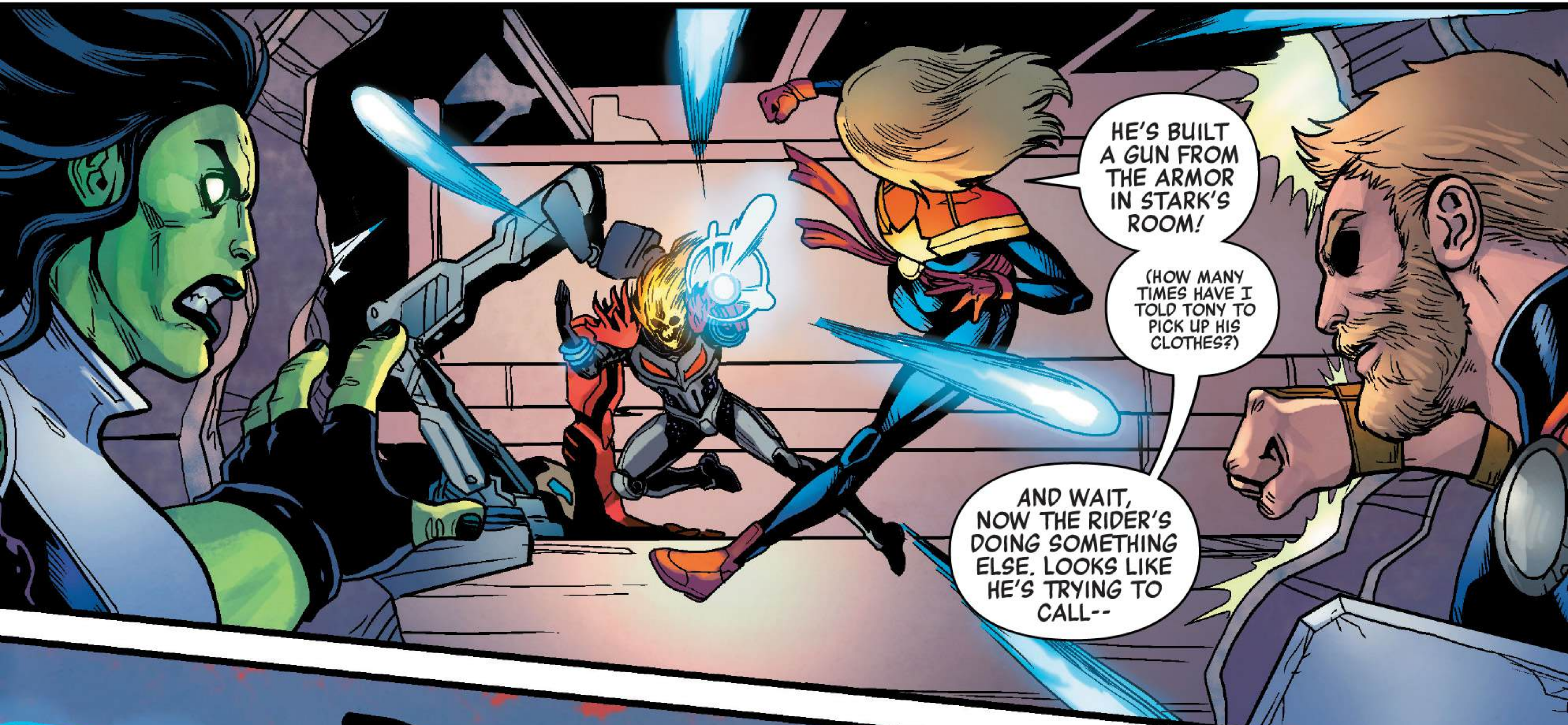
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE GOALS IN LIFE. ME, I'VE LIVED TO KILL FOR ABOUT AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER. EVEN BEFORE I GOT SUPER SPACE POWERS.

YEAH, BACK THEN, IT WAS JUST FRANK...





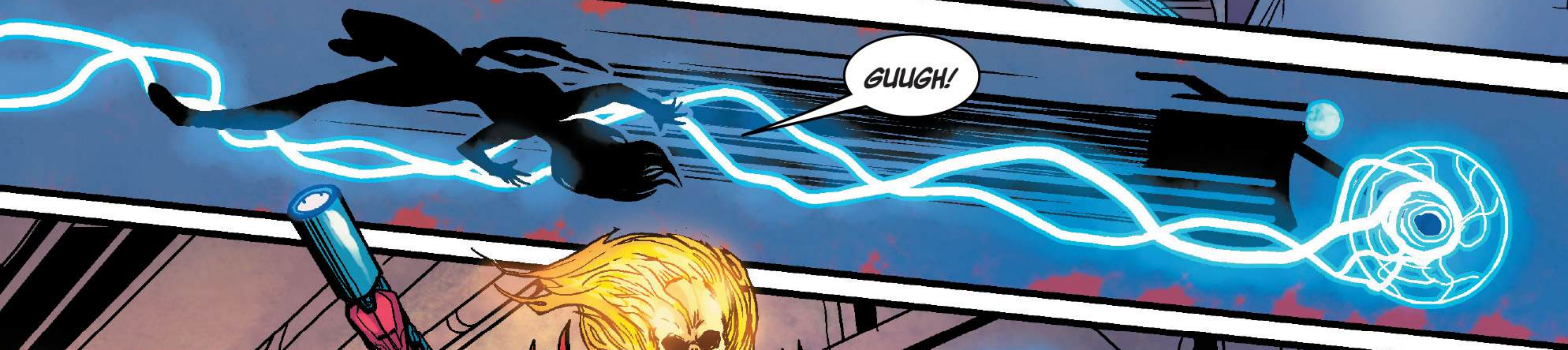
...AND A GUN!



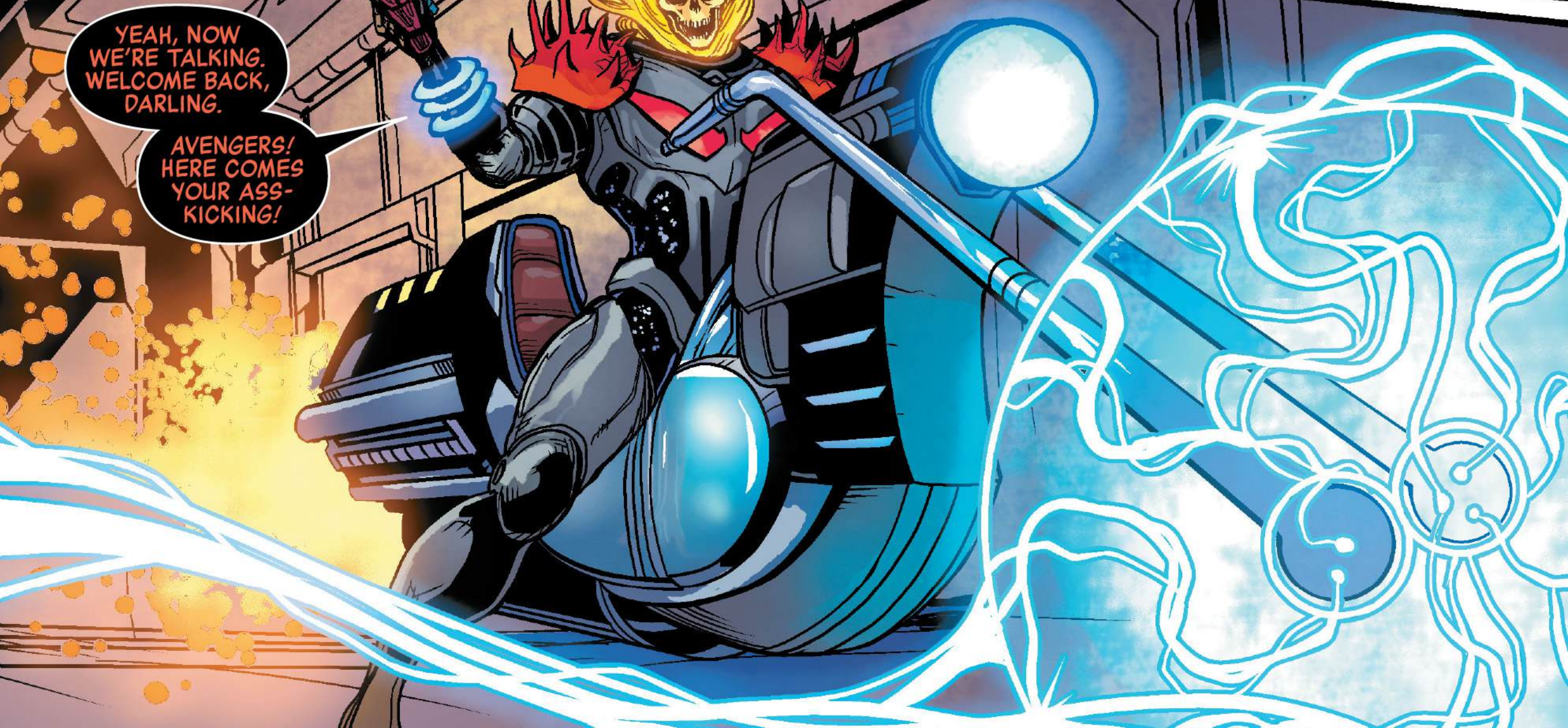
HE'S BUILT A GUN FROM THE ARMOR IN STARK'S ROOM!

(HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD TONY TO PICK UP HIS CLOTHES?)

AND WAIT, NOW THE RIDER'S DOING SOMETHING ELSE. LOOKS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO CALL--

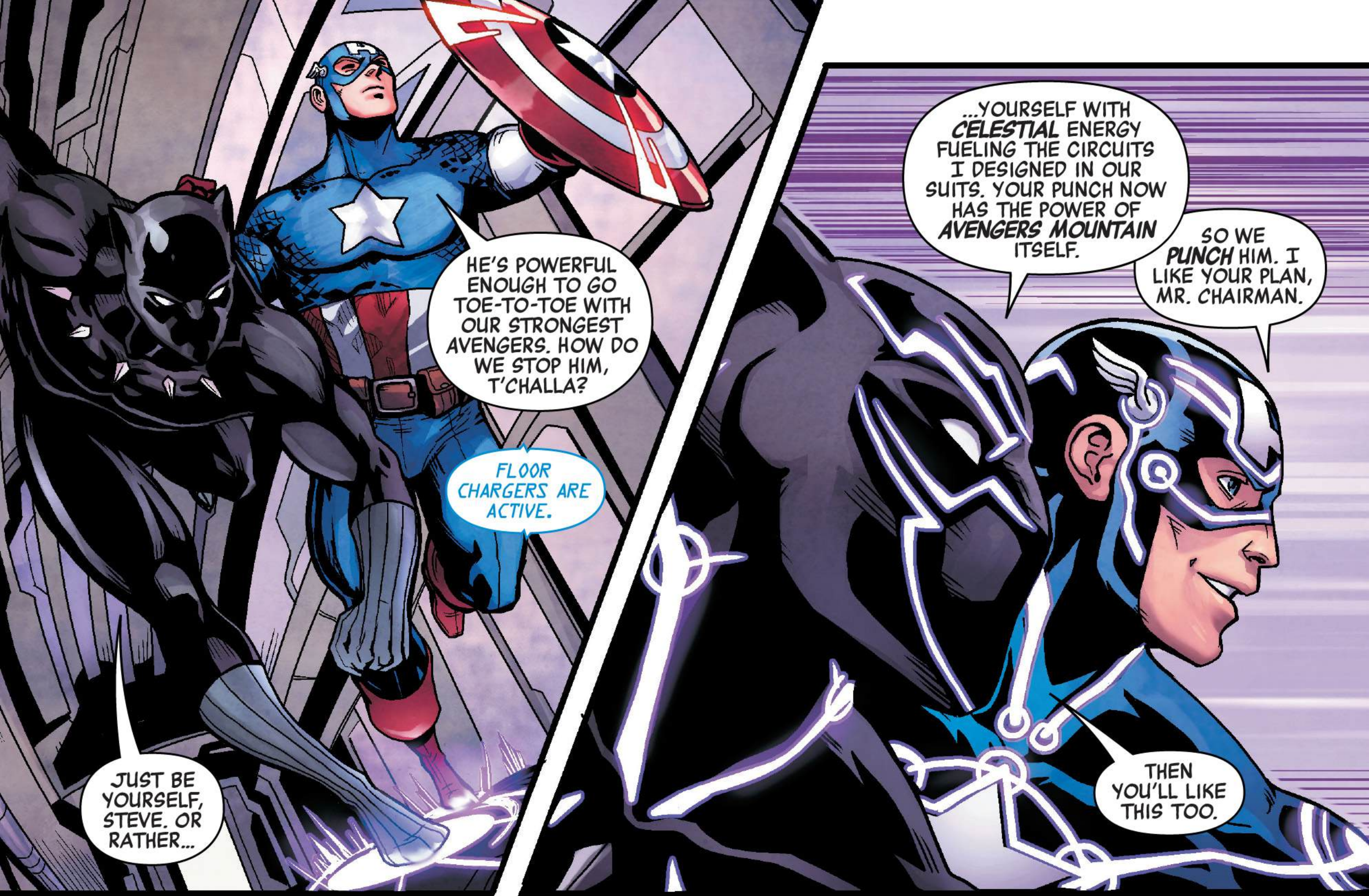


GUUGH!



YEAH, NOW WE'RE TALKING. WELCOME BACK, DARLING.

AVENGERS! HERE COMES YOUR ASS-KICKING!





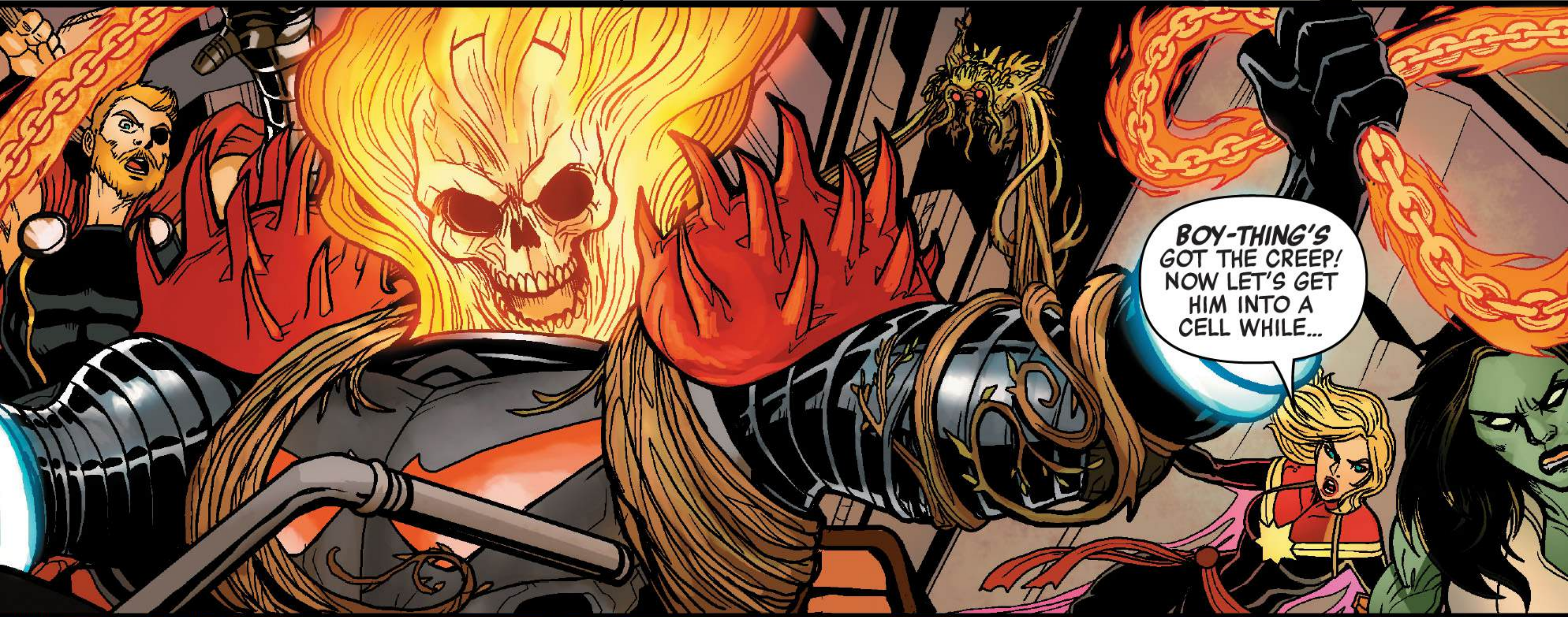
THESE WRETCHED GHOST RIDERS GET EVEN MORE **ANNOYING** WITH EACH NEW ITERATION. YET ANOTHER REASON TO DESPISE MEPHISTO.

BUT YOU DON'T SEEM VERY INTERESTED IN RIDERS RIGHT NOW, **BLADE**.



POWER COSMIC. SPACE GOD MUMBO JUMBO. THIS ISN'T MY KINDA FIGHT, HELLSTROM.

I'D RATHER WE GET BACK TO HELLFIRE AND POSSESSED HOT RODS AND...



BOY-THING'S GOT THE CREEP! NOW LET'S GET HIM INTO A CELL WHILE...



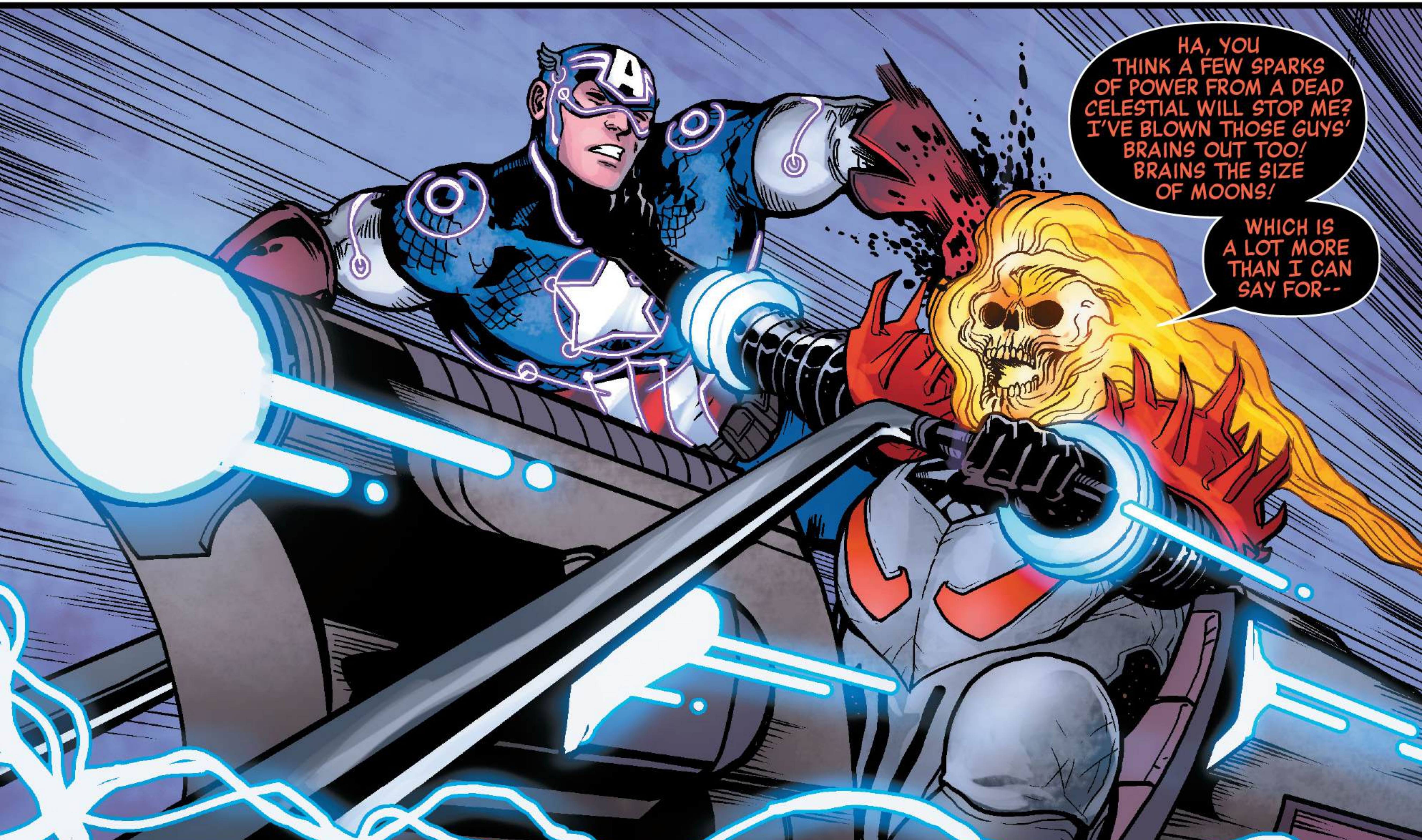
MMRP!

YOU'RE TRYING TO BEAT ME WITH YOUR **HOUSEPLANT**? YOU **SURE** YOU GUYS ARE THE AVENGERS?



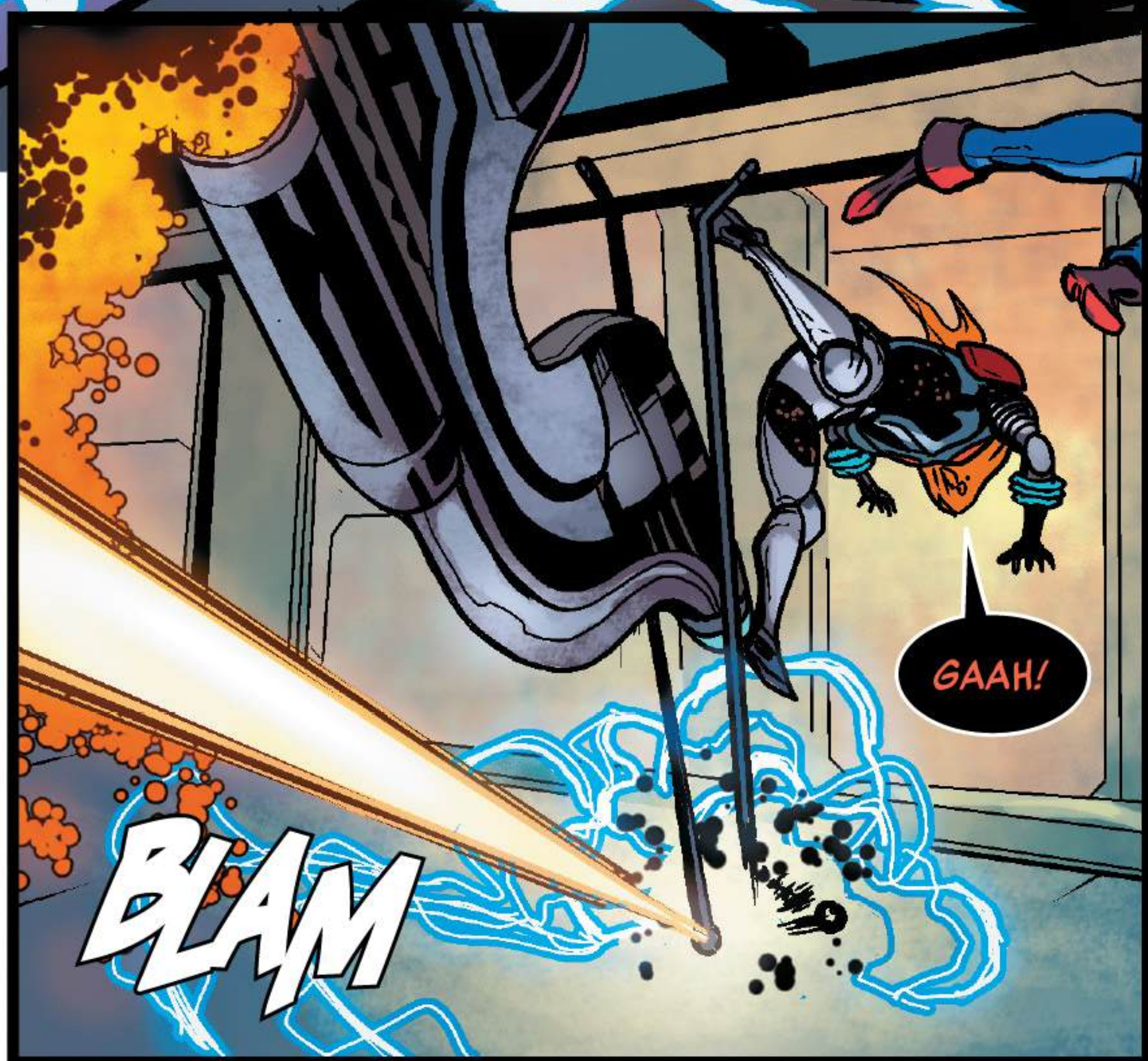
NOT YOUR FIGHT, HUH?

NOW IT DAMN SURE IS.



HA, YOU THINK A FEW SPARKS OF POWER FROM A DEAD CELESTIAL WILL STOP ME? I'VE BLOWN THOSE GUYS' BRAINS OUT TOO! BRAINS THE SIZE OF MOONS!

WHICH IS A LOT MORE THAN I CAN SAY FOR--



GAAH!

BLAM



DID YOU JUST...SHOOT MY BIKE?

PAL, YOU MUST REALLY WANT TO DIE IN THE MOST RIDICULOUSLY AGONIZING WAY IN THE STORIED HISTORY OF DYING. WHAT THE HELL KINDA GUN IS--



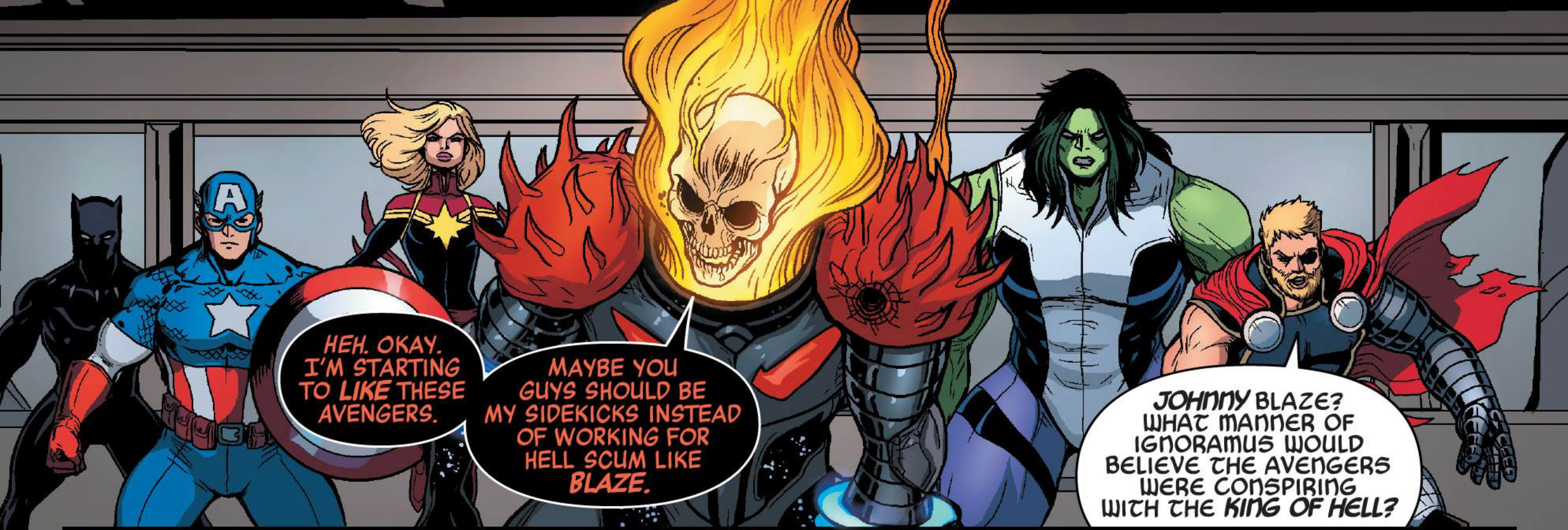
GAAGH! @%\$#!



THE KIND THAT PUTS HOLES IN WALKING SKELETONS.

PAL.

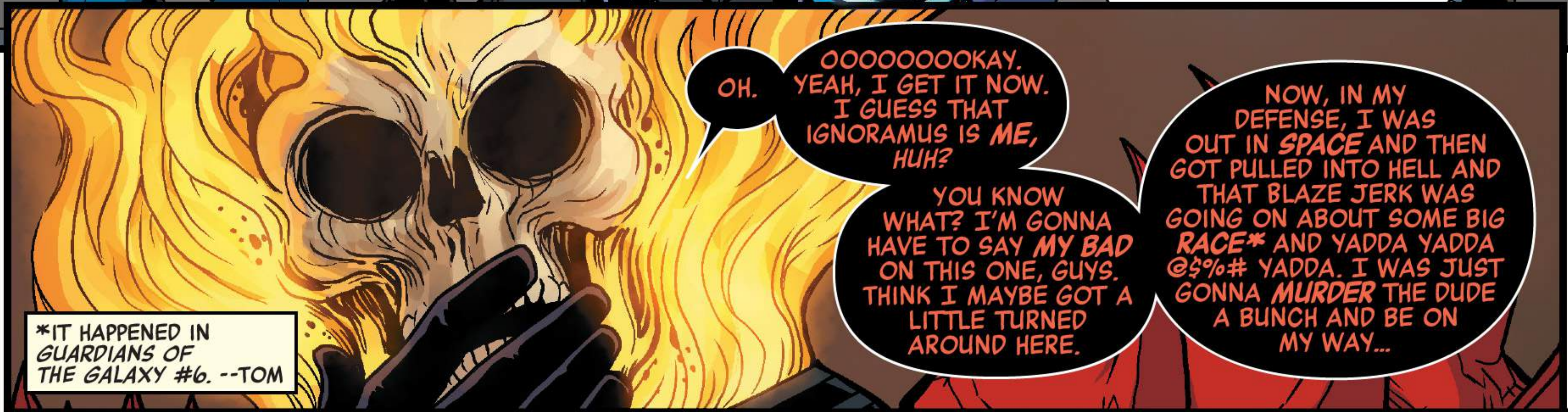
JUST TELL ME WHERE YOU WANT THE NEXT ONE.



HEH. OKAY. I'M STARTING TO LIKE THESE AVENGERS.

MAYBE YOU GUYS SHOULD BE MY SIDEKICKS INSTEAD OF WORKING FOR HELL SCUM LIKE BLAZE.

JOHNNY BLAZE? WHAT MANNER OF IGNORAMUS WOULD BELIEVE THE AVENGERS WERE CONSPIRING WITH THE KING OF HELL?



*IT HAPPENED IN GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #6. --TOM

OH.

OOOOOOOOKAY. YEAH, I GET IT NOW. I GUESS THAT IGNORAMUS IS ME, HUH?

YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M GONNA HAVE TO SAY MY BAD ON THIS ONE, GUYS. THINK I MAYBE GOT A LITTLE TURNED AROUND HERE.

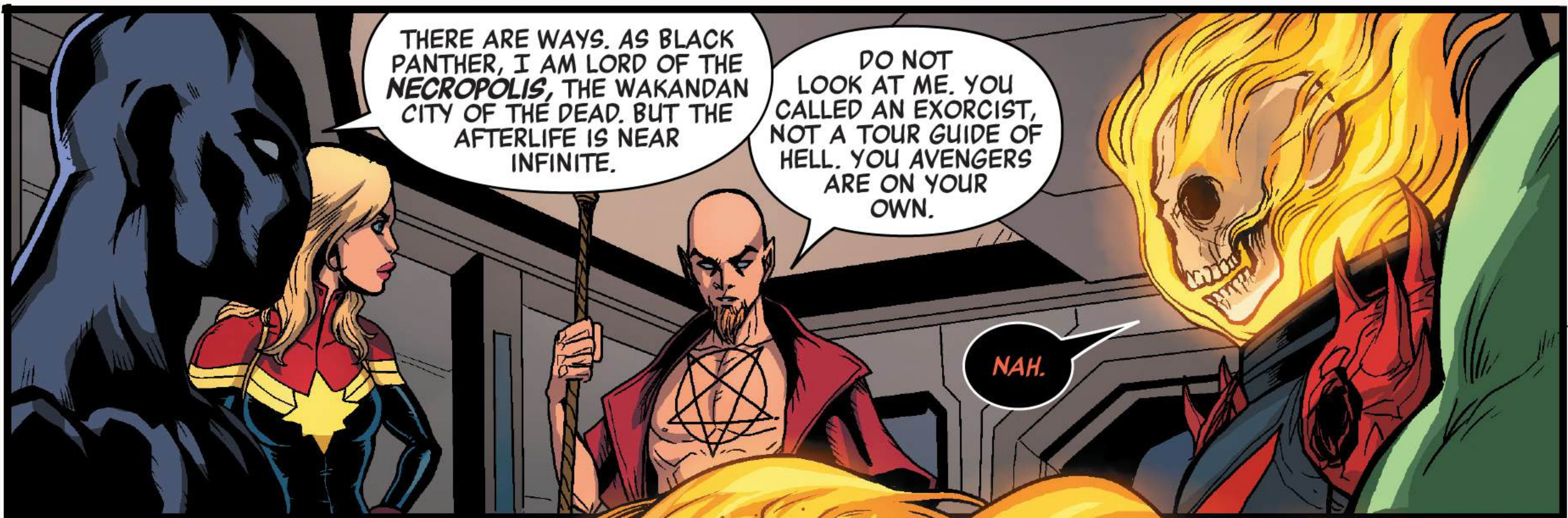
NOW, IN MY DEFENSE, I WAS OUT IN SPACE AND THEN GOT PULLED INTO HELL AND THAT BLAZE JERK WAS GOING ON ABOUT SOME BIG RACE* AND YADDA YADDA @\$\$%# YADDA. I WAS JUST GONNA MURDER THE DUDE A BUNCH AND BE ON MY WAY...



...BUT THEN...THEN HE SENT ME INTO THAT STUPID CAR, DIDN'T HE? TRAPPED ME IN IT. HAD TO FIGHT MY WAY OUT. FIGHT YOU GUYS. SO BLAZE COULD GRAB SOME ROBBIE KID. TAKE HIM TO HELL. FOR...

OKAY, I'M GONNA STOP MYSELF RIGHT NOW AND ASK IF I REALLY GIVE A DAMN ABOUT ANY OF THIS.

ROBBIE'S IN HELL WITH BLAZE. HOW THE HELL DO WE GET TO HELL?



THERE ARE WAYS. AS BLACK PANTHER, I AM LORD OF THE NECROPOLIS, THE WAKANDAN CITY OF THE DEAD. BUT THE AFTERLIFE IS NEAR INFINITE.

DO NOT LOOK AT ME. YOU CALLED AN EXORCIST, NOT A TOUR GUIDE OF HELL. YOU AVENGERS ARE ON YOUR OWN.

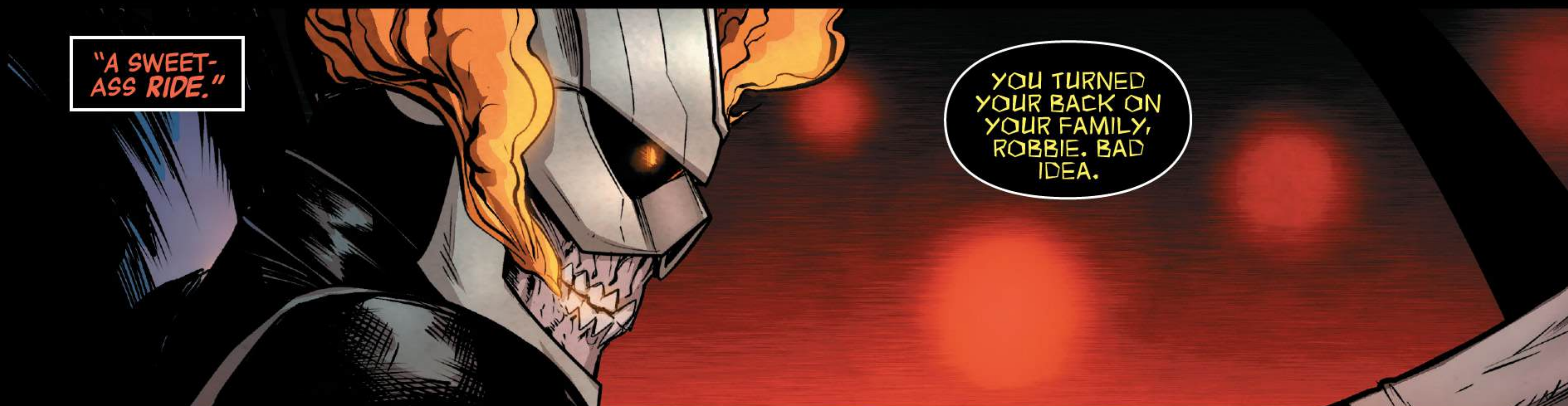
NAH.



YOU'RE NOT. I JUST MADE UP MY MIND. I WANNA GO KILL JOHNNY BLAZE NOW. SO YEAH, I'LL JOIN YOUR LITTLE AVENGERS TEAM.

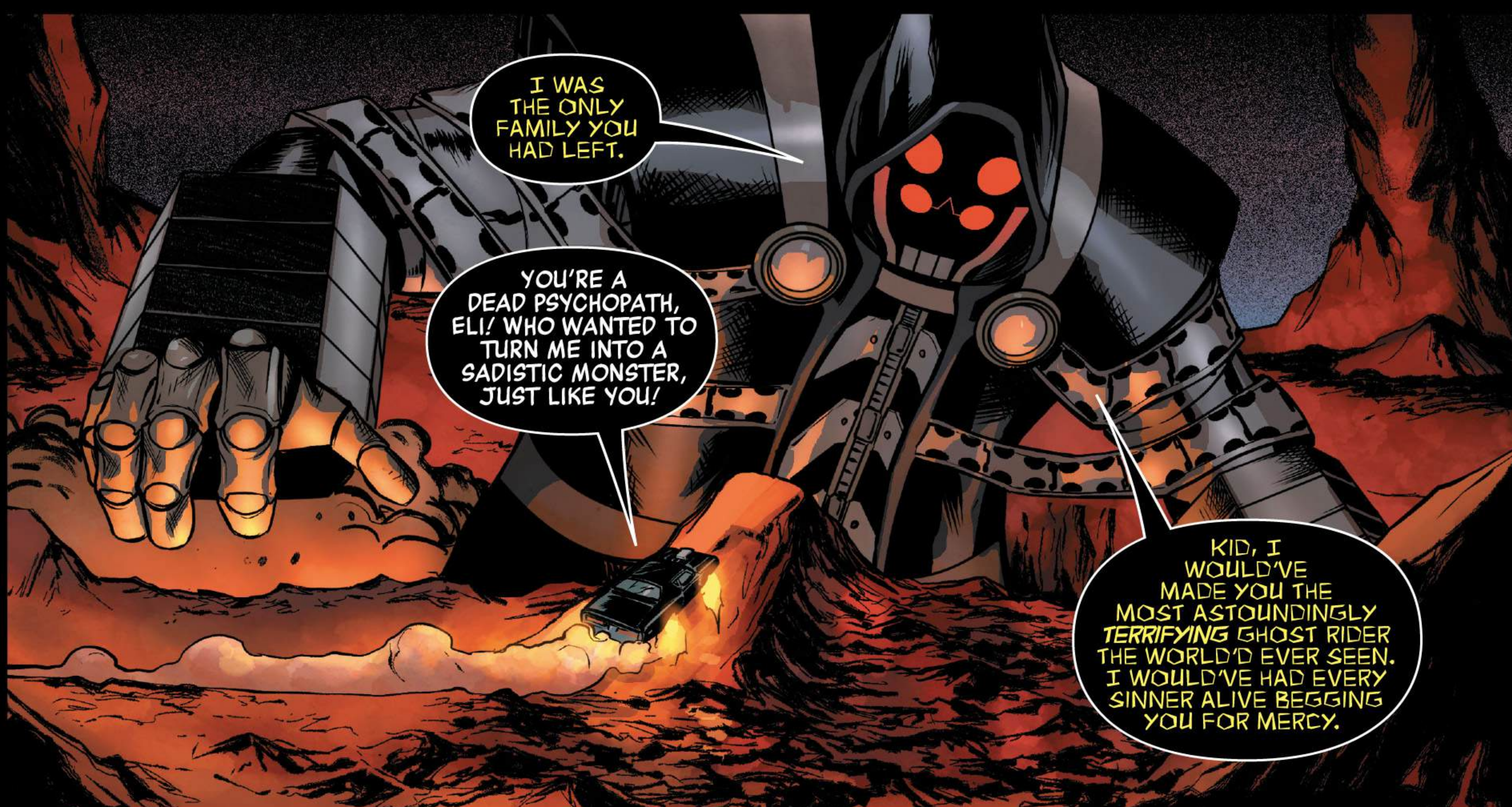
YOU ARE MOST DEFINITELY NOT AN--

BUT THIS AIN'T JUST A FIGHT WE'RE LOOKING AT. THIS IS A CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS. SO IF YOU PEOPLE WANNA JOIN IN, WE'RE GONNA NEED TO BUILD YOU ONE VERY IMPORTANT THING.



"A SWEET-
ASS RIDE."

YOU TURNED
YOUR BACK ON
YOUR FAMILY,
ROBBIE. BAD
IDEA.



I WAS
THE ONLY
FAMILY YOU
HAD LEFT.

YOU'RE A
DEAD PSYCHOPATH,
ELI! WHO WANTED TO
TURN ME INTO A
SADISTIC MONSTER,
JUST LIKE YOU!

KID, I
WOULD'VE
MADE YOU THE
MOST ASTOUNDINGLY
TERRIFYING GHOST RIDER
THE WORLD'D EVER SEEN.
I WOULD'VE HAD EVERY
SINNER ALIVE BEGGING
YOU FOR MERCY.



YOU'RE A
SICK FREAK, ELI.
I NEVER WANNA BE
ANYTHING LIKE YOU.
AND AFTER I WIN
THIS DAMN
RACE...



GRRGH!

...I'LL
NEVER BE A
GHOST RIDER
AGAIN!



HA! ROBBIE,
YOU'RE EVEN **DUMBER**
THAN BLAZE SAYS YOU
ARE. STOP MAKING OUR
FAMILY LOOK
BAD, KID.

YOU WANNA
WIN THIS RACE AND
SAVE YOUR BROTHER,
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO
ACCEPT WHAT YOU'VE
BECOME. WHAT I
HELPED MAKE
YOU.

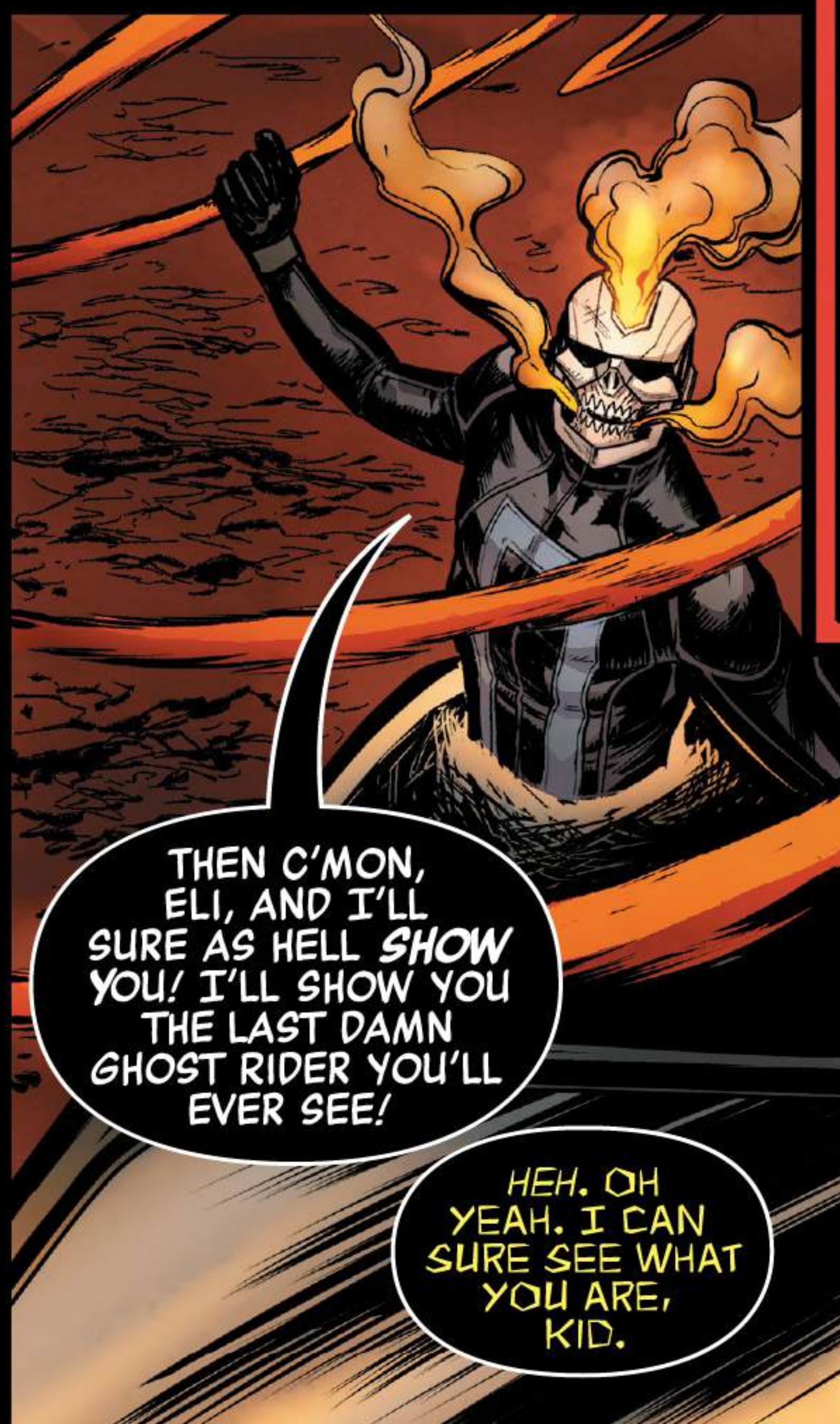


YOU'RE ONE
HELL OF A **MONSTER**,
ROBBIE REYES. THE
BIGGEST, BADDEST
MONSTER ON FOUR
WHEELS.



BUT THAT'LL
NEVER HAPPEN,
WILL IT?

YOU WANT
A MONSTER?
YOU WANNA KNOW
WHAT I'M WILLING
TO DO TO SAVE
GABE?



THEN C'MON,
ELI, AND I'LL
SURE AS HELL **SHOW**
YOU! I'LL SHOW YOU
THE LAST DAMN
GHOST RIDER YOU'LL
EVER SEE!

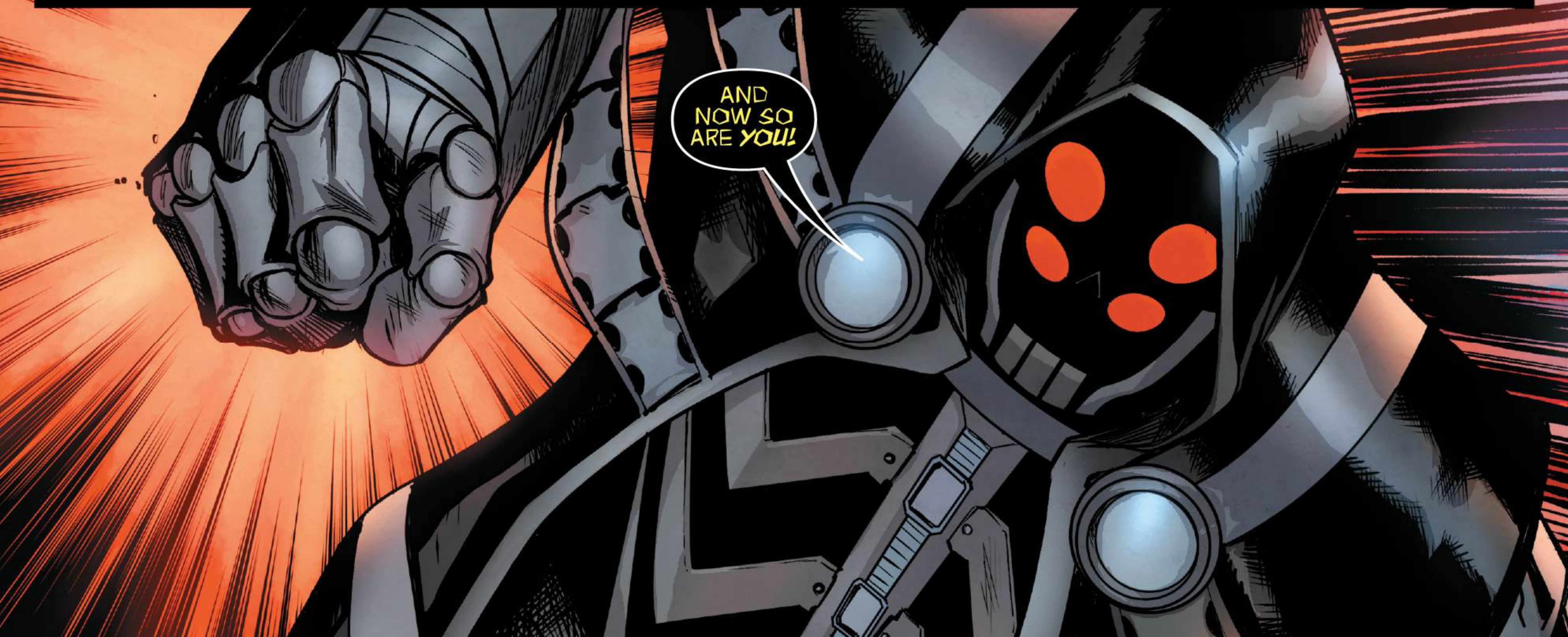
HEH. OH
YEAH. I CAN
SURE SEE WHAT
YOU ARE,
KID.



AND I'M
NOT THE
ONLY ONE.



IT...IT
CAN'T BE.





25 CHALLENGE OF THE GHOST RIDERS PART 4





NO. MY
CAR...

THE
RACE...

GABE...

HA! ROBBIE,
REAL QUICK, BEFORE
YOU'RE LOST FOREVER
IN THE DEPTHS OF HELL,
I WANT YOU TO KNOW
SOMETHING...

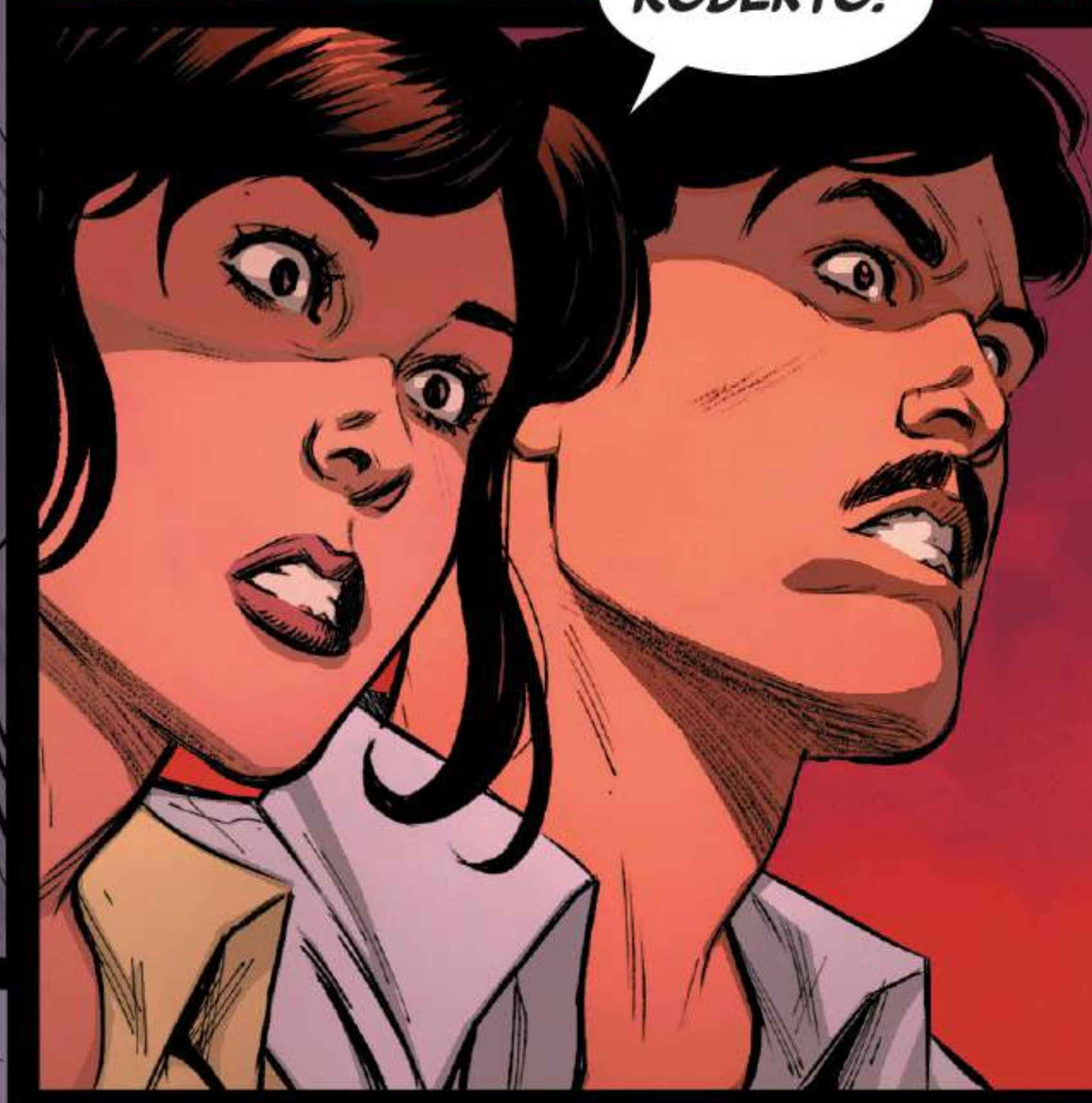


YOU WERE
A **TERRIBLE**
GHOST
RIDER.



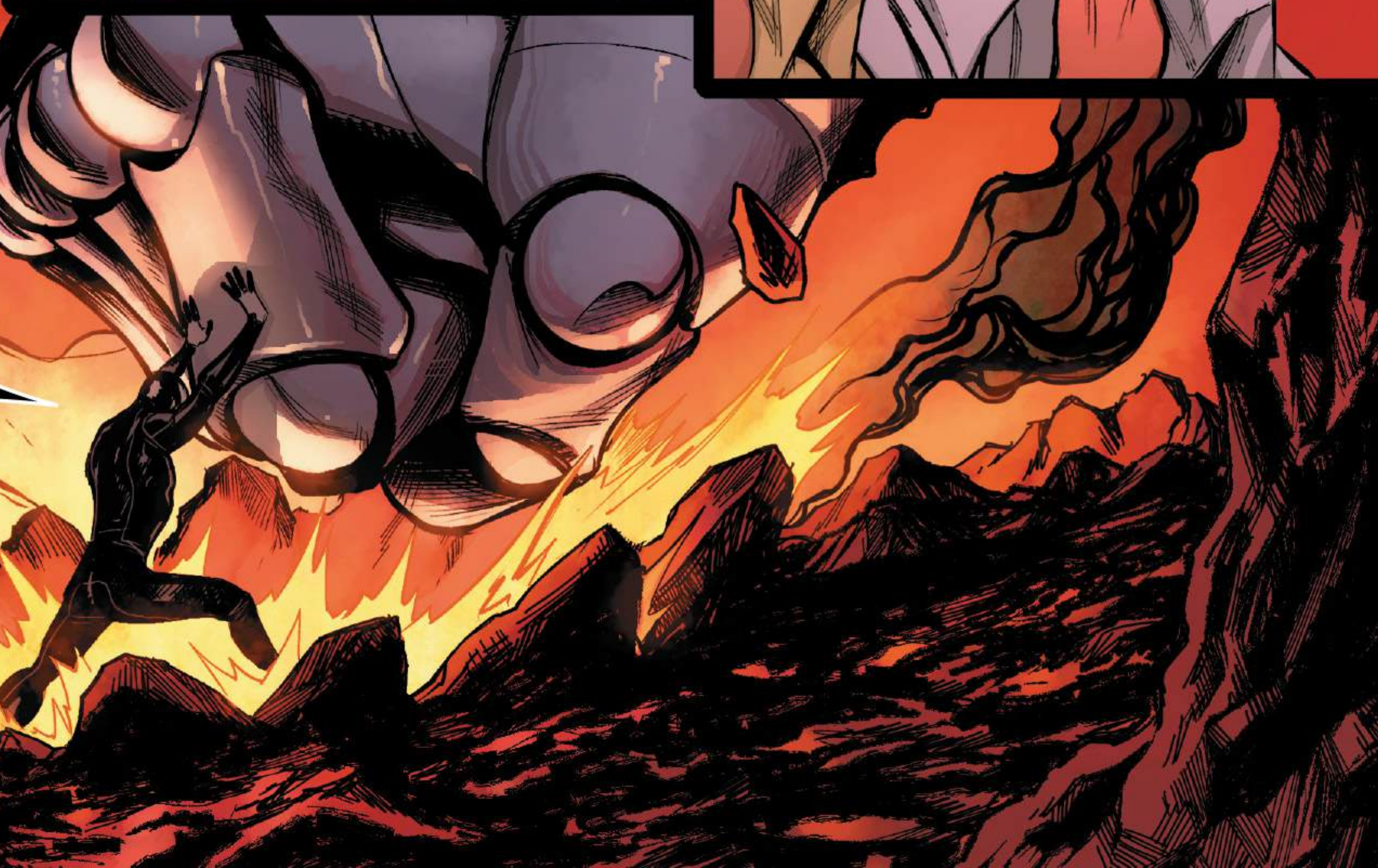
POOM

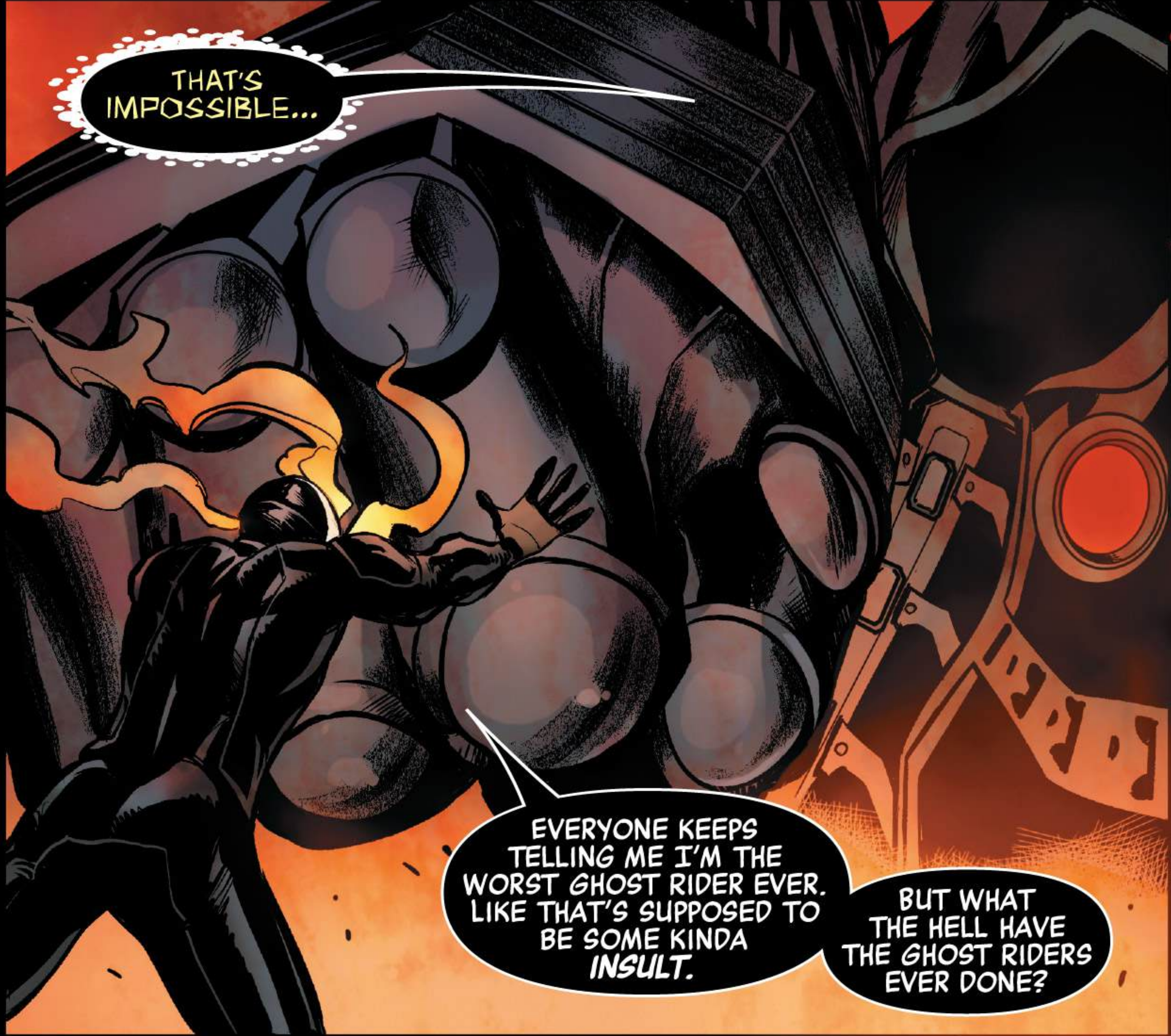
ROBERTO!



HRRRHG.

YEAH.
HERE'S THE
THING ABOUT
THAT.





THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

EVERYONE KEEPS TELLING ME I'M THE WORST GHOST RIDER EVER. LIKE THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KINDA *INSULT*.

BUT WHAT THE HELL HAVE THE GHOST RIDERS EVER DONE?



EXCEPT BRING MISERY ON THEMSELVES AND EVERYONE THEY LOVE.

EXCEPT DIE ALONE OR GO BAT-*5%#@* CRAZY.



WELL, THAT'S NOT ME, UNCLE ELI. THAT'S NOT HOW I'M GOING OUT.

TO HELL WITH BEING A SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE.



AAARRRRGGH!!!



I'M AN AVENGER.

AND I'LL BE DAMNED IF I'M LOSING THIS RACE.



GRRGH!

YOU'RE TOO LATE, ROBBIE! YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A CAR ANYMORE!

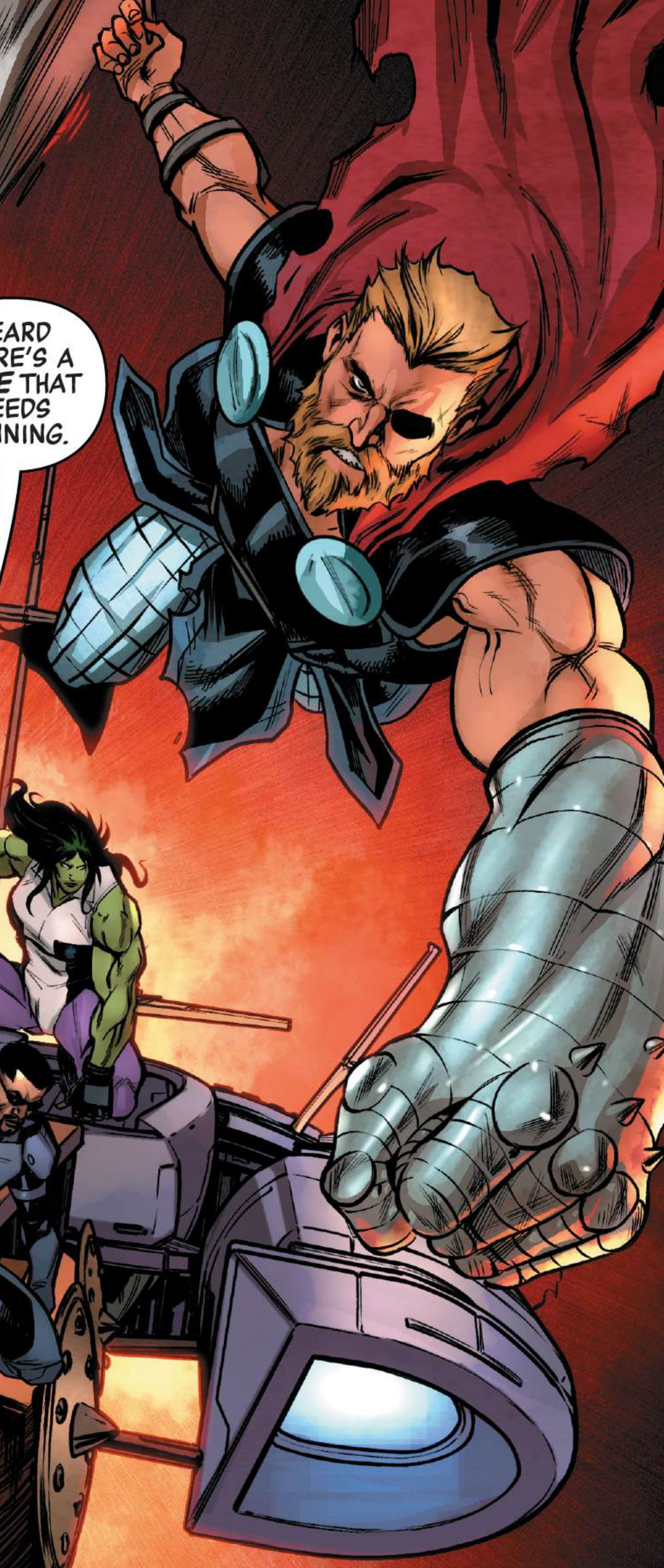
YEAH, WE CAN HELP WITH THAT.



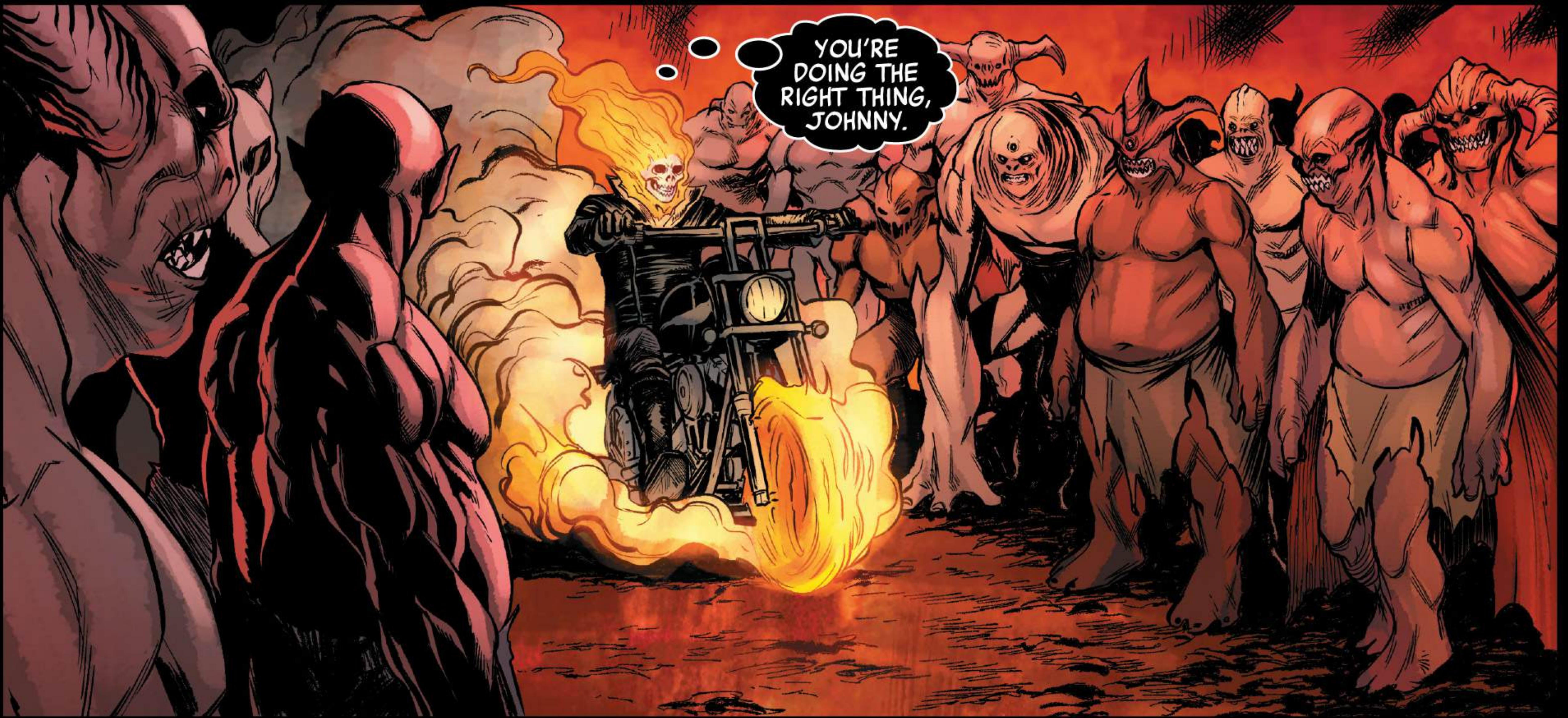
HUH?



HEARD
THERE'S A
RACE THAT
NEEDS
WINNING.



GET IN,
ROBBIE.
AND POINT
US TOWARD THE
FINISH LINE.



YOU'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING, JOHNNY.



NOBODY KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE DOWN HERE. WHAT IT TAKES TO RUN THIS PLACE. YOU LOSE CONTROL OF THE DAMNED, EVERYTHING GOES TO HELL. *LITERALLY.*

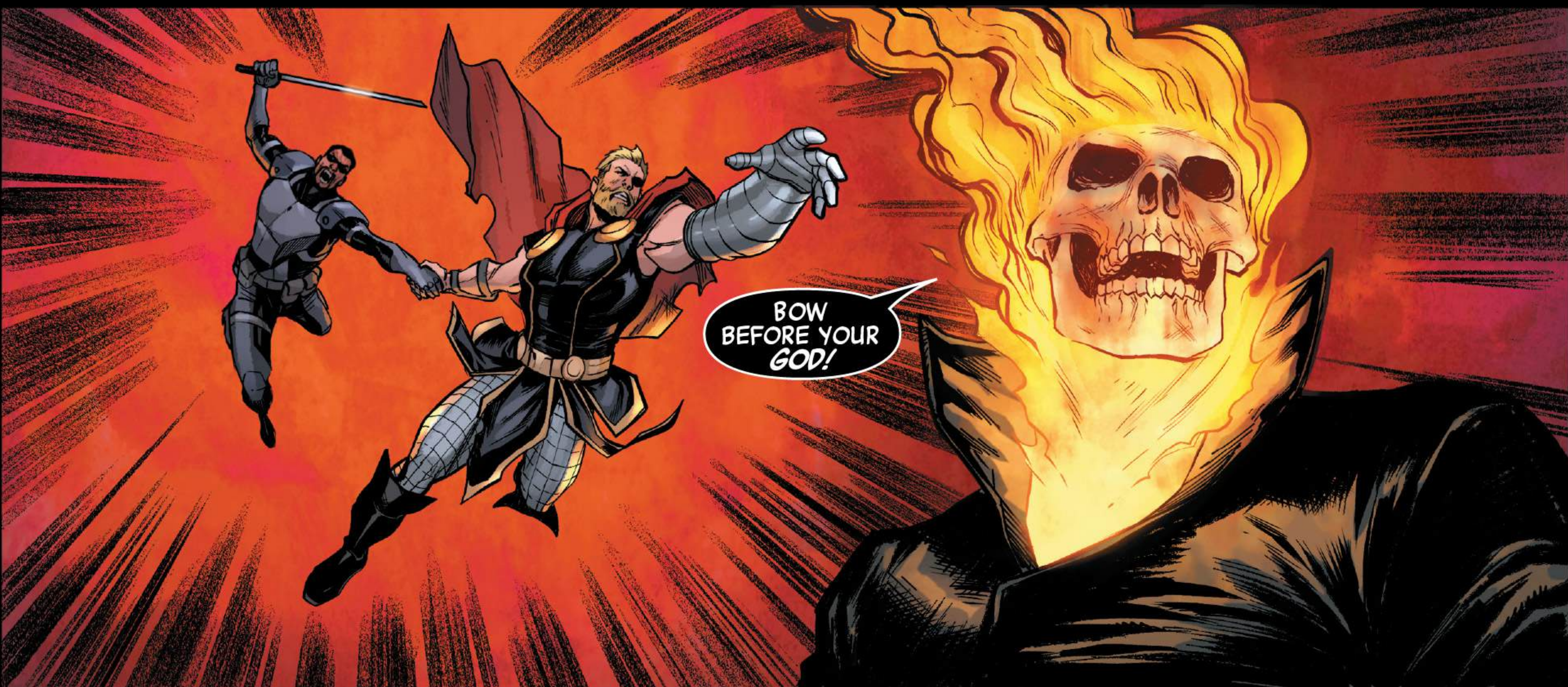
YOU'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING. YOU'RE NOT *MEPHISTO*. YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER.



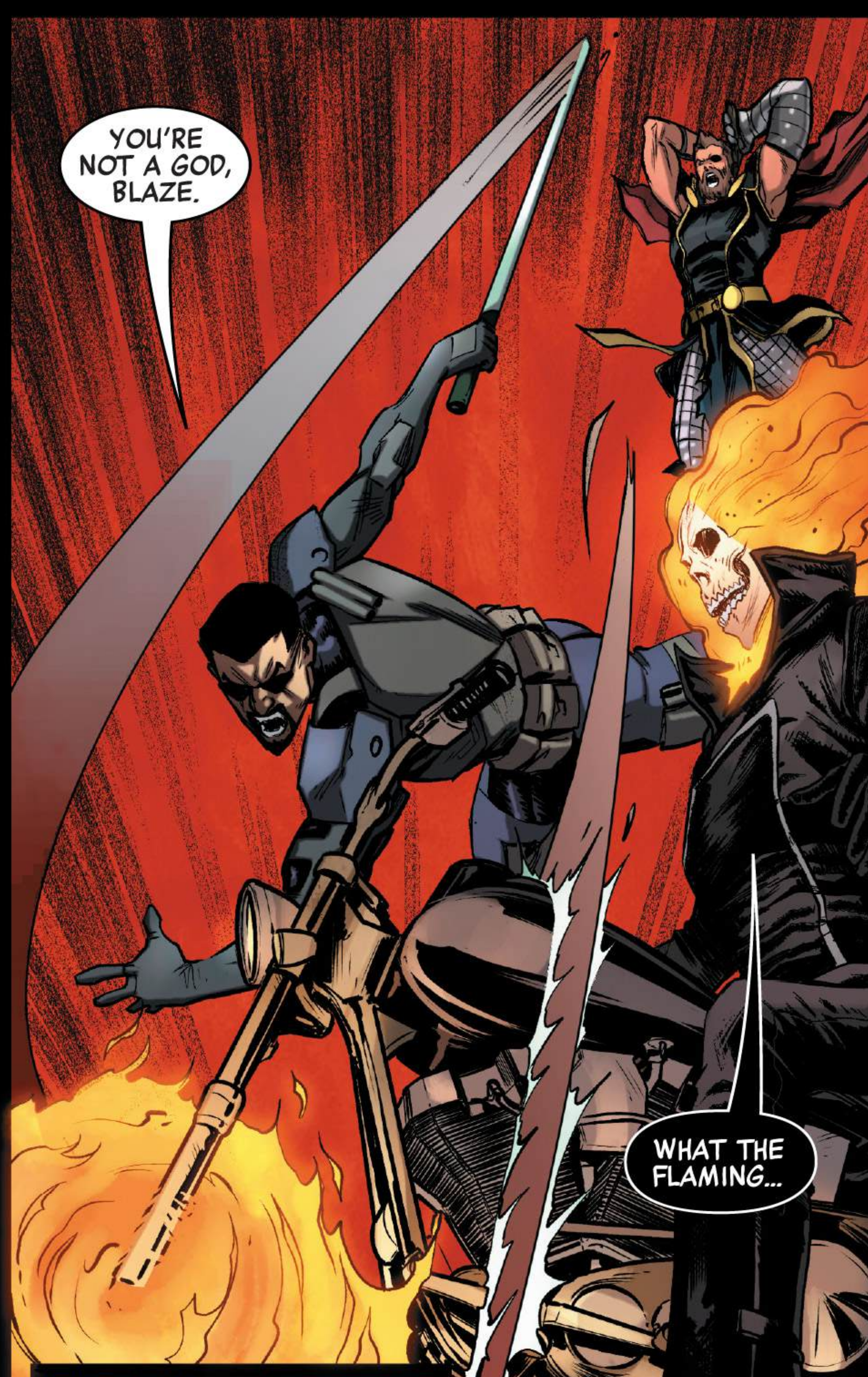
YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER. YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER. YOU'RE NOT A--

GET ON YOUR KNEES, YOU WRETCHED SINNERS, OR I'LL PENANCE STARE EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!

YOU *BOW* WHEN YOU SEE YOUR KING COME RIDING!



BOW BEFORE YOUR *GOD!*



YOU'RE NOT A GOD, BLAZE.

WHAT THE FLAMING...



BUT HE IS.

IF THOR HAD A TANKARD OF MEAD FOR EVERY WOULD-BE LORD OF THE UNDERWORLD WHO SOUGHT TO TERRORIZE THE LIVING FOR THEIR OWN PETTY ENDS...



...THOR WOULD BE DRUNK AND JOYOUS RIGHT NOW.

TELL ME, KING BLAZE... DOES THOR LOOK JOYOUS TO YOU?



HARD TO TELL THROUGH ALL THE FIRE!



NAY.

IT ISN'T.



MJOLNIR KNOWS
HOW TO MAKE ANYTHING
BLEED. EVEN AN UNDEAD
DRAUGR OF LIVING BONES.
EVEN A SPIRIT OF
VENGEANCE.

STAND DOWN,
BLAZE. THY
RACE IS RUN.

GAAARGH!



WHAT'S THE
WORST YOU THINK
YOU CAN DO TO
ME, THOR?

HEH.
SEND ME
TO HELL?



THE GROUND
HAS SWALLOWED
HIM. I'LL RAZE THE
ENTIRE AFTERLIFE IF
I MUST, BUT
BLAZE WILL NOT
ESCAPE--

THOR,
LOOK OUT FOR
THE BIKE!

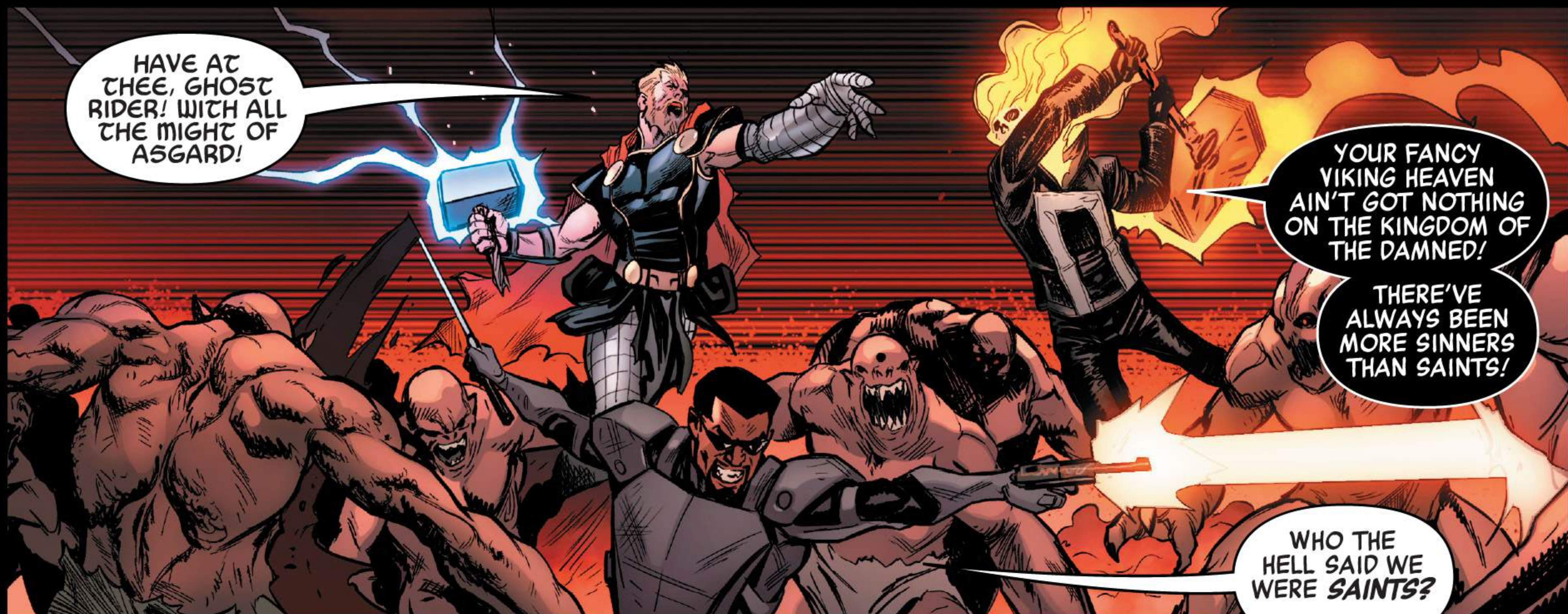


GLUGH!



I WAS
BORN A GEARHEAD
AND A CARNY.

BUILT MY
FIRST BIKE FROM
JUNKYARD SCRAP
WHEN I WAS 9.





LOOKS LIKE YOU JUST TOOK THE LEAD, ROBBIE...



...FOR GOOD. NO WAY BLAZE IS CATCHING UP TO THIS RIDE.

ASGARDIAN FLYING SHIP. WAKANDAN VIBRANIUM-CORE ENGINE. STARK TECH ROCKETS. CAPTAIN MARVEL AT THE CONTROLS.

WOW. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS DID ALL THIS FOR ME.

WE'RE **AVENGERS**. WE RACE THROUGH HELL FOR EACH OTHER. IT SHOULD SAY THAT ON OUR FLAG.

HELL, I'D MAYBE EVEN DO IT FOR **TONY**.



DON'T COUNT BLAZE OUT, MISS CAROL. HE'S THE KING DOWN HERE. AND HE'LL DO ANYTHING TO WIN.

I'M SURE HE WILL. BUT BELIEVE ME, ROBBIE, NOBODY'S ABOUT TO OUT-FAST-AND-THE-FURIOUS CAROL DANVERS.

JEN, THIS IS THE PART OF THE MOVIE WHERE THE DRIVER HITS THE **NITROUS** BUTTON!



TIME TO BE MY BUTTON, GIRL!

GRRRRGH!



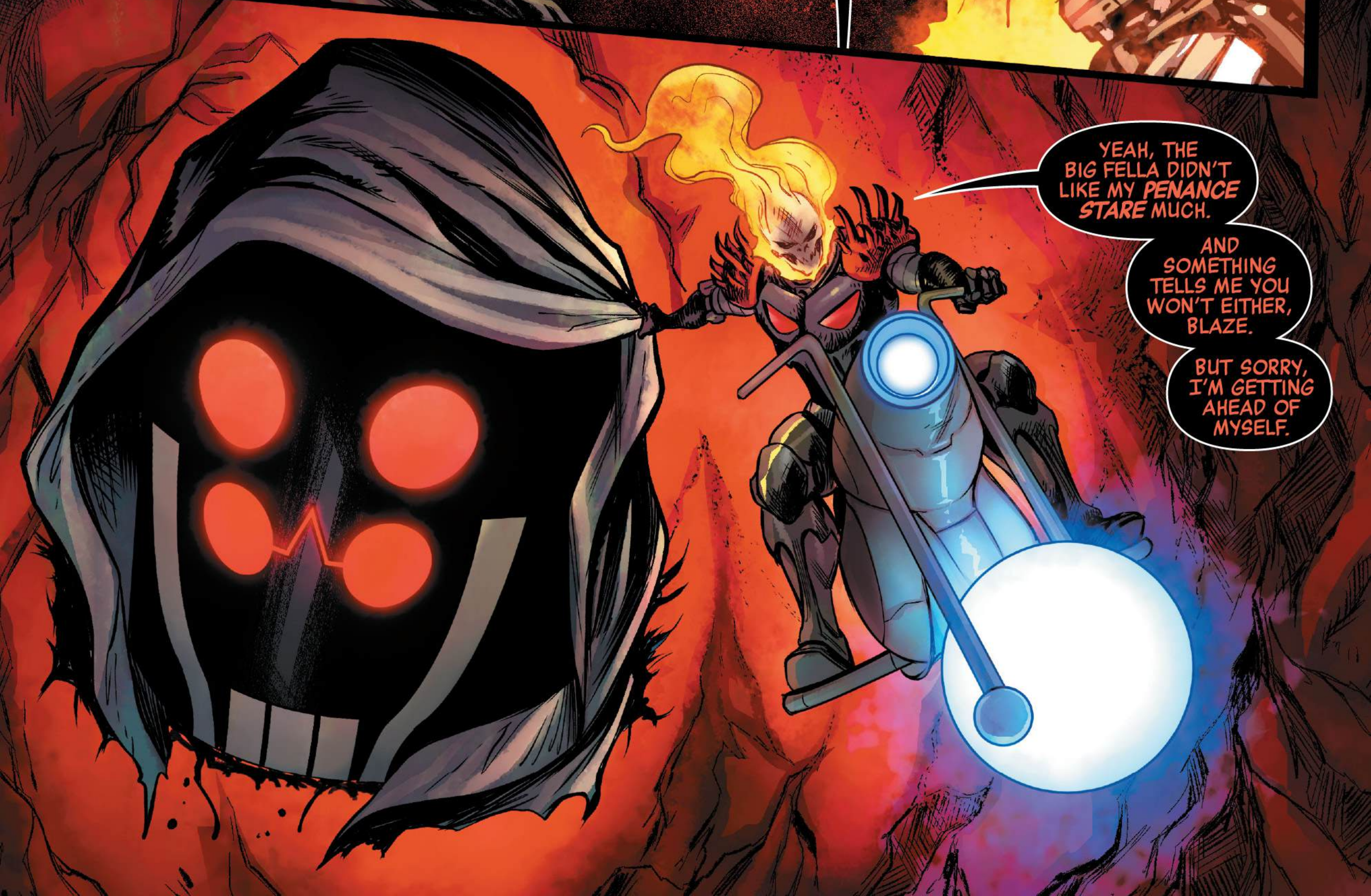
MY GAMMA-POWERED TURBO CHARGE!



DAMN IT! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!

WHERE'S THAT USELESS ELI? I GAVE HIM AN ENTIRE DEAD CELESTIAL TO POSSESS!

YOU MEAN THIS GUY?



YEAH, THE BIG FELLA DIDN'T LIKE MY PENANCE STARE MUCH.

AND SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU WON'T EITHER, BLAZE.

BUT SORRY, I'M GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF.



WE WEREN'T
PROPERLY
INTRODUCED BEFORE,
WERE WE?



NAME'S
FRANK.

OKAY, TIME
FOR YOU TO
DIE HORRIBLY
NOW.

CASTLE,
YOU MORON.
YOU REALLY ARE
GOOD FOR
NOTHING, YOU
KNOW THAT?

EXCEPT
GETTING YOUR
OWN **FAMILY**
MURDERED.



RRGGH!
COME BACK
HERE, BLAZE!

GOT A
CHALLENGE TO
FINISH, FRANK.
BUT DON'T
WORRY.



"I'LL BE HAPPY TO
RACE YOU TOO
WHEN THIS IS OVER."



SLOW THEM DOWN!
THROW YOUR FLESH IN THEIR ENGINES! DROWN THE AVENGERS IN YOUR BLOOD!
WHATEVER IT TAKES!



WE'RE LOSING SPEED. JEN AND I WILL CLEAR A PATH THROUGH THE DEMONS.

TAKE THE WHEEL, ROBBIE.

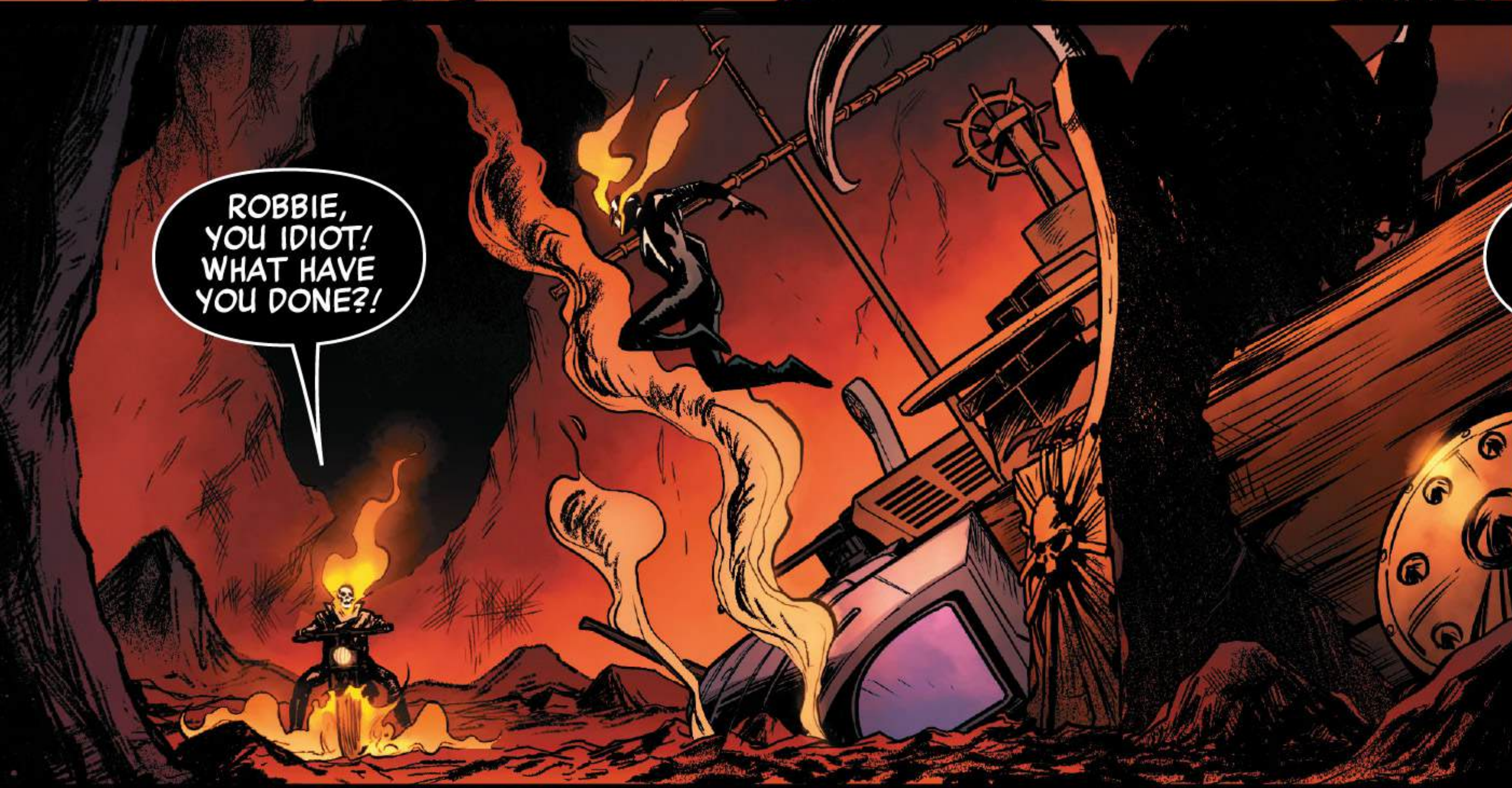
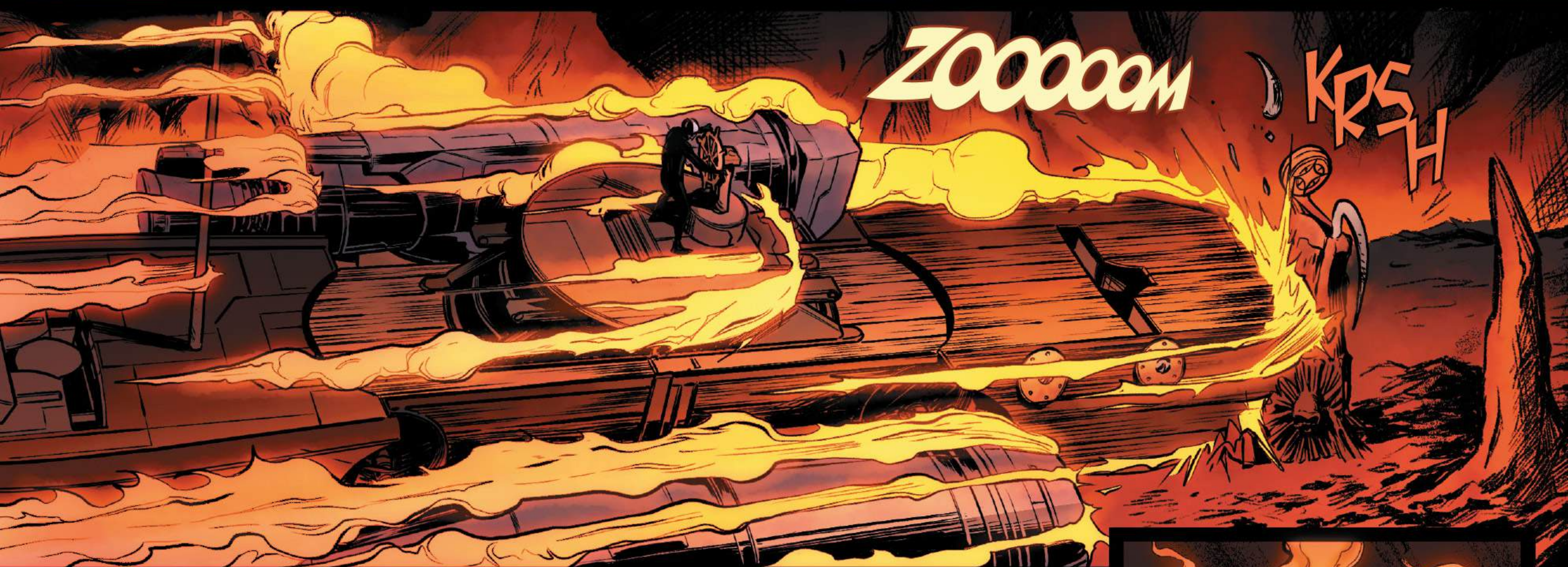
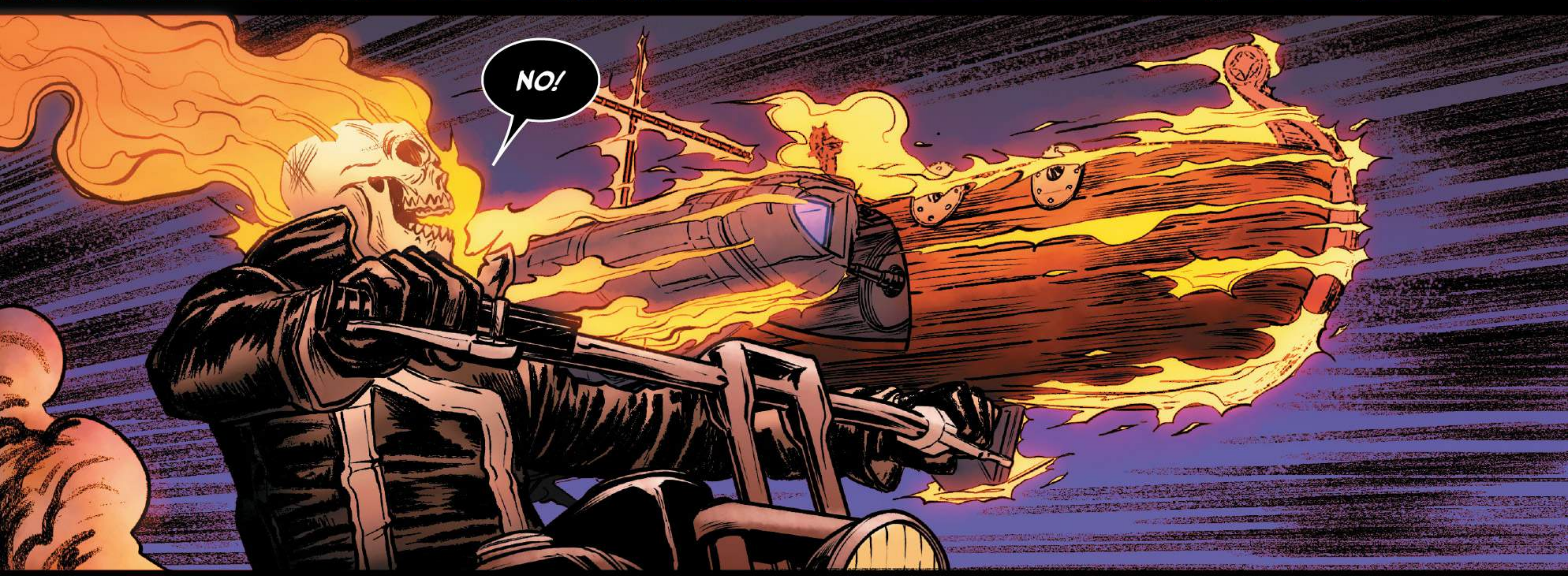
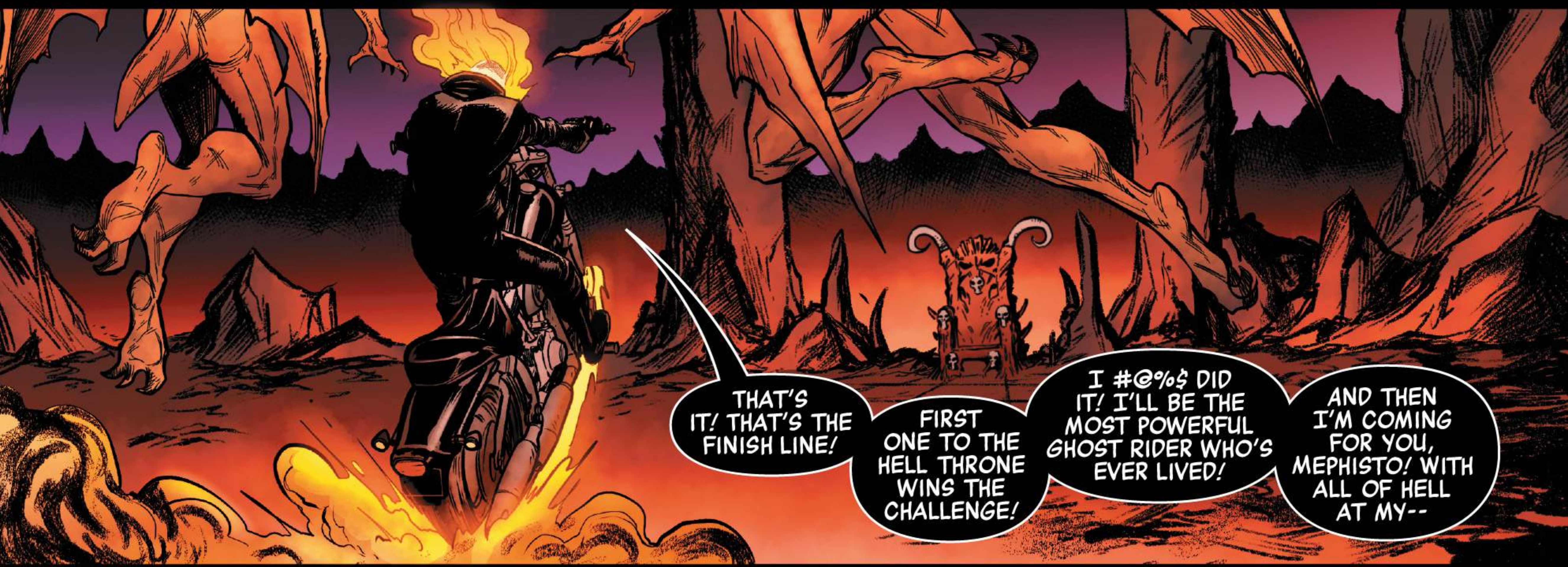
NO.

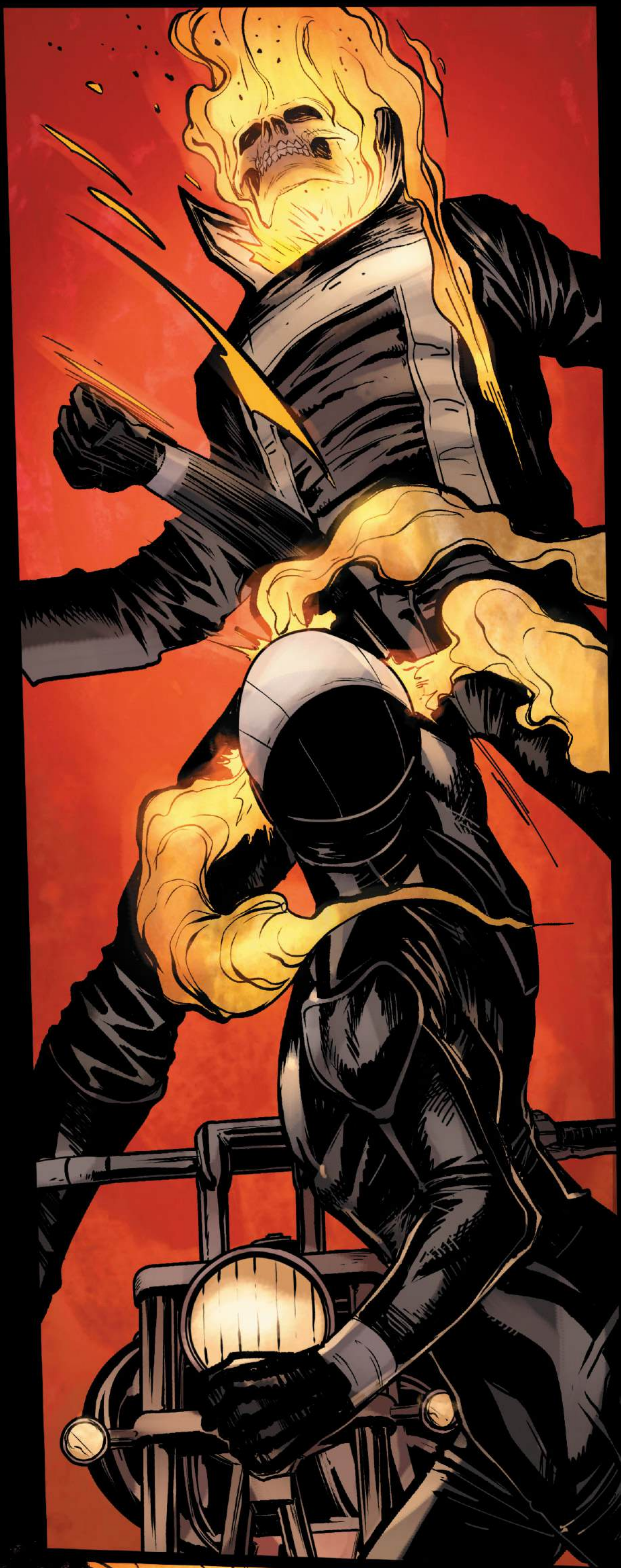


I DON'T NEED TO TAKE THE WHEEL.
THIS ISN'T JUST ANY RACE. IT'S AN ANCIENT CHALLENGE OF THE RIDERS. SO THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO WIN IT.



LIKE A GHOST RIDER WOULD!





I JUST WON
YOUR STUPID HELL RACE.
BY SHOWING YOU THAT A
GHOST RIDER DOESN'T HAVE
TO RIDE ALONE. THAT
MAYBE IT'S BEST WHEN
WE DON'T.

BECAUSE
AMID ALL THE
HELLFIRE AND PENANCE
AND RACING TO BEAT
THE DEVIL...IT'S
FAMILY THAT KEEPS
US SANE.

EVEN IN THE
DARKEST DEPTHS
OF HELL. AND
YOU, BLAZE...



...YOU SEEM
LIKE YOU COULD
SURE USE A FAMILY
RIGHT ABOUT
NOW.



CUTE SPEECH, KID. BUT FAMILY WON'T SAVE YOU ONCE YOU SIT THE THRONE OF HELL. YOU'RE NOT READY TO RULE THIS PLACE.

GOOD, BECAUSE I NEVER WILL. I DON'T WANT YOUR THRONE.



AND **YOU** SHOULDN'T HAVE IT EITHER, BLAZE. COME BACK WITH US. WE CAN HELP YOU. WE CAN FIND ANOTHER ANSWER.

YOU... **ABDICATE** THE THRONE?

SO YOU'RE **LEAVING** ME HERE, WITHOUT THE POWER I NEED TO RULE? HUMILIATED IN FRONT OF THE LEGIONS OF THE DAMNED?

HEH.

YOU'VE GOT YOUR **UNCLE'S CRUELTY** AFTER ALL.

CONGRATS ON BEING FREE OF ELI'S CURSE. BUT TELL ME, GHOST RIDER... NEXT TIME YOU TURN INTO THE BIG BAD BOOGEYMAN... INTO A HELLFIRE-SCREAMING MONSTER YOU CAN'T CONTROL...



...WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'LL HAVE LEFT TO BLAME? OTHER THAN **YOURSELF**?

WHERE IS HE?!



TIME TO DIE, JOHNNY BLAZE! I'M GONNA TAKE YOU APART BONE BY MISERABLE BONE! STARTING WITH THAT DAMN **MOUTH** THAT MENTIONED MY FAMILY!

MAYBE SOMEDAY, FRANK. BUT BELIEVE ME, THE WORST THING YOU PEOPLE COULD EVER DO TO ME...



...IS
JUST WALK
AWAY.

NOO!!!!

LATER.



THE INSANE
GHOST RIDER AND
I SEARCHED THE
FARTHEST DEPTHS OF
HELL AND FOUND NO
TRACE OF BLAZE.

BUT BEHOLD,
I DID UNCOVER
SOMETHING
ELSE.

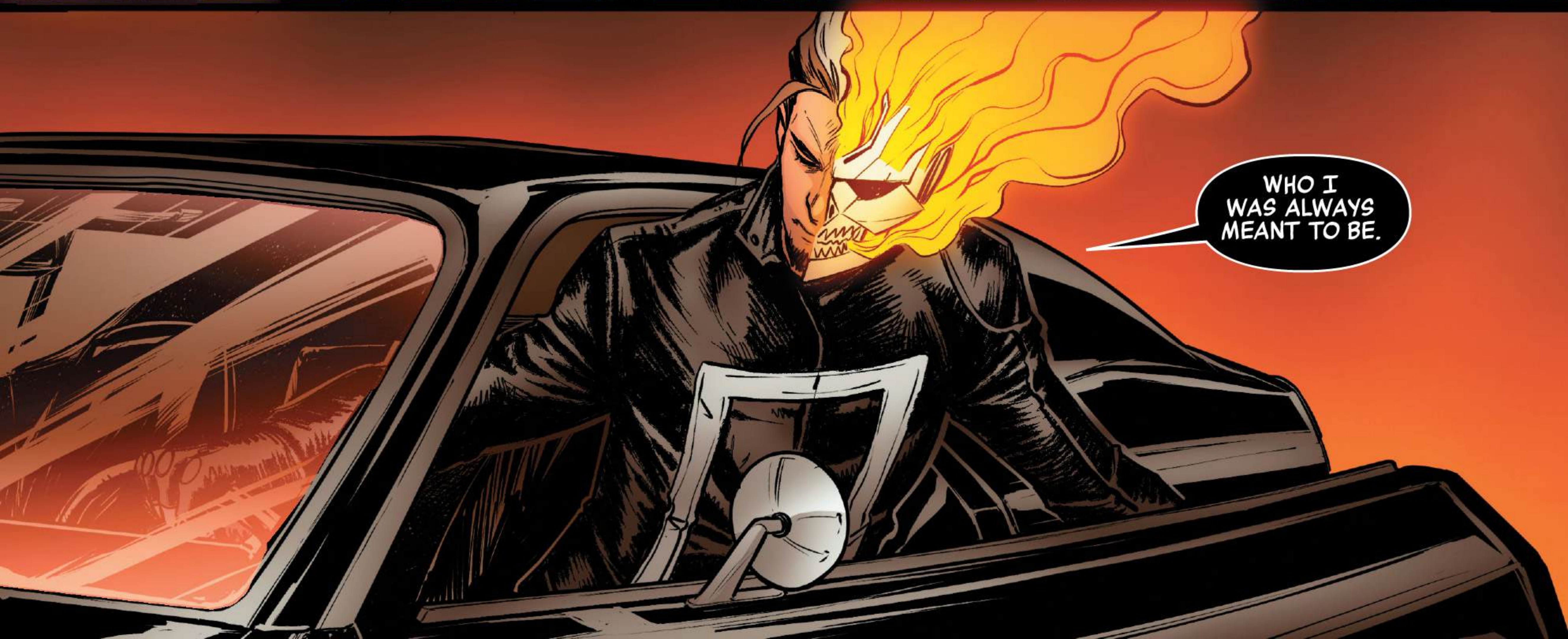
DO YOU
THINK ROBBIE WILL
WANT THE CAR BACK
AFTER EVERYTHING
HE'S BEEN THROUGH
BECAUSE
OF IT?

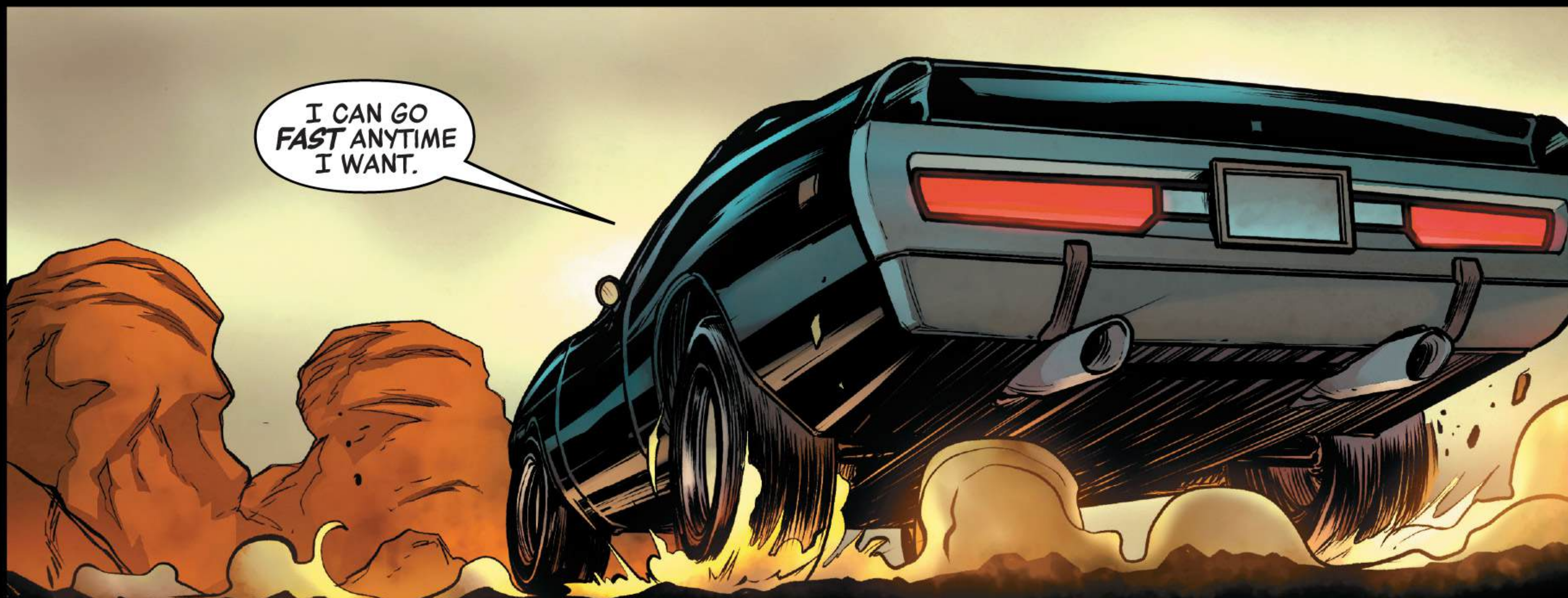
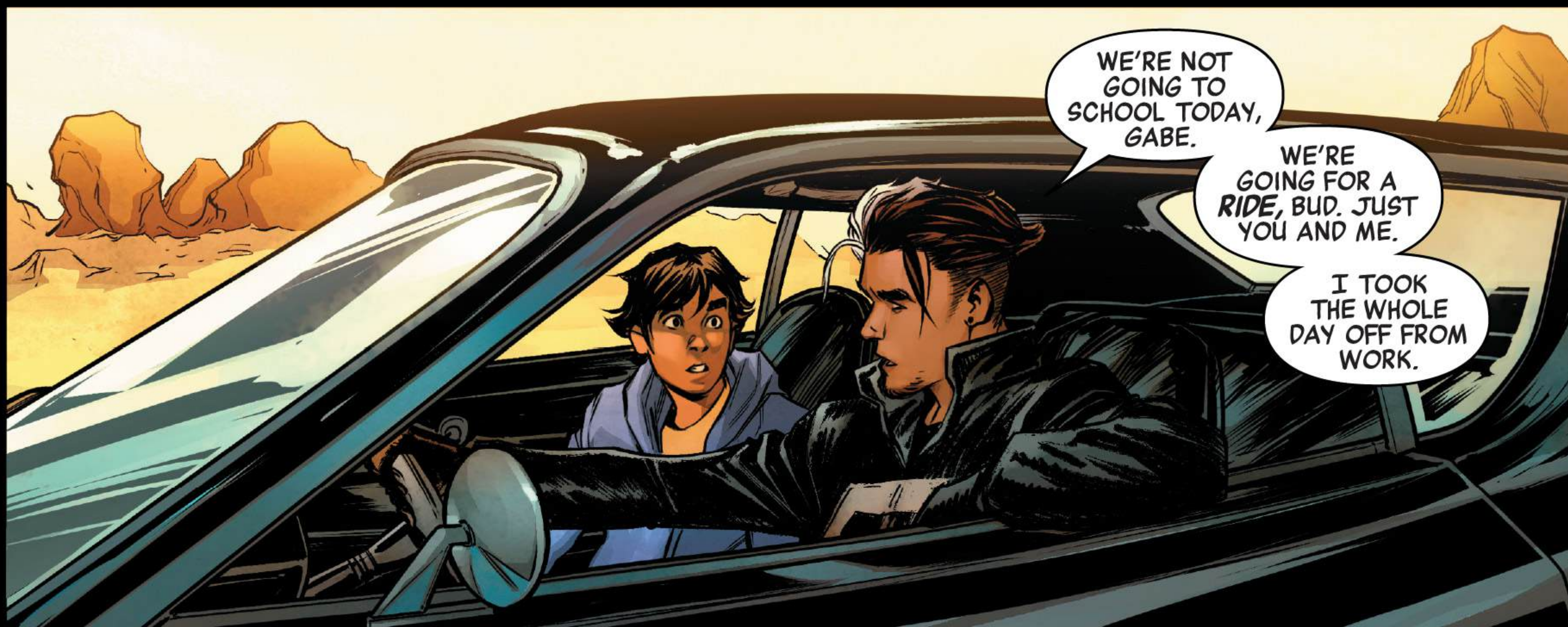


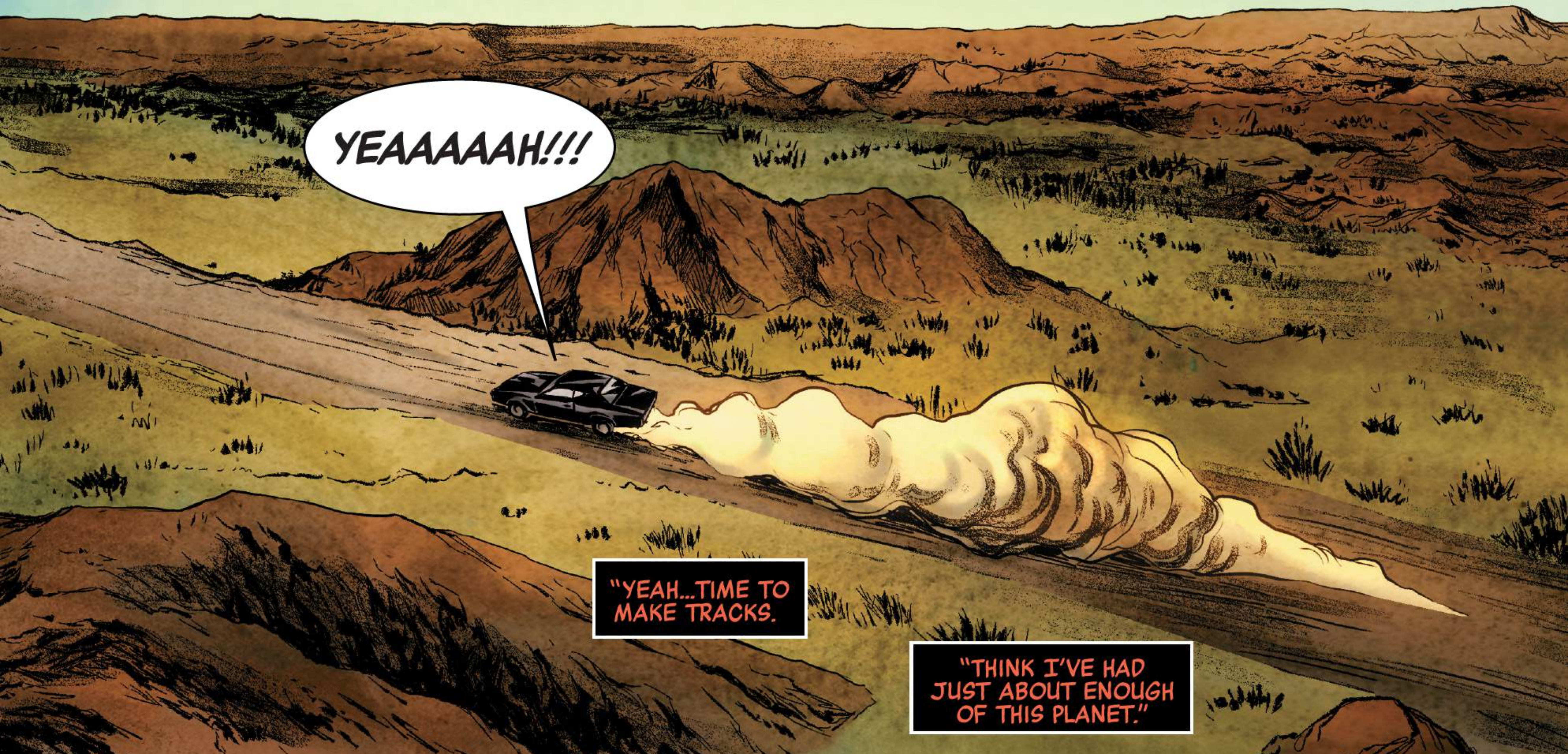
I'LL HAVE
HELLSTORM CONFIRM
WHETHER BLAZE SPOKE
THE TRUTH. THAT THE **HELL
CHARGER** HAS TRULY BEEN
FREED FROM THE EVIL
INFLUENCE OF HIS
UNCLE'S SPIRIT.

AND THEN IT
WILL BE UP TO
ROBERTO...

"...WHETHER HIS RACE IS TRULY FINISHED OR NOT."







YEAAAAAH!!!

"YEAH...TIME TO
MAKE TRACKS."

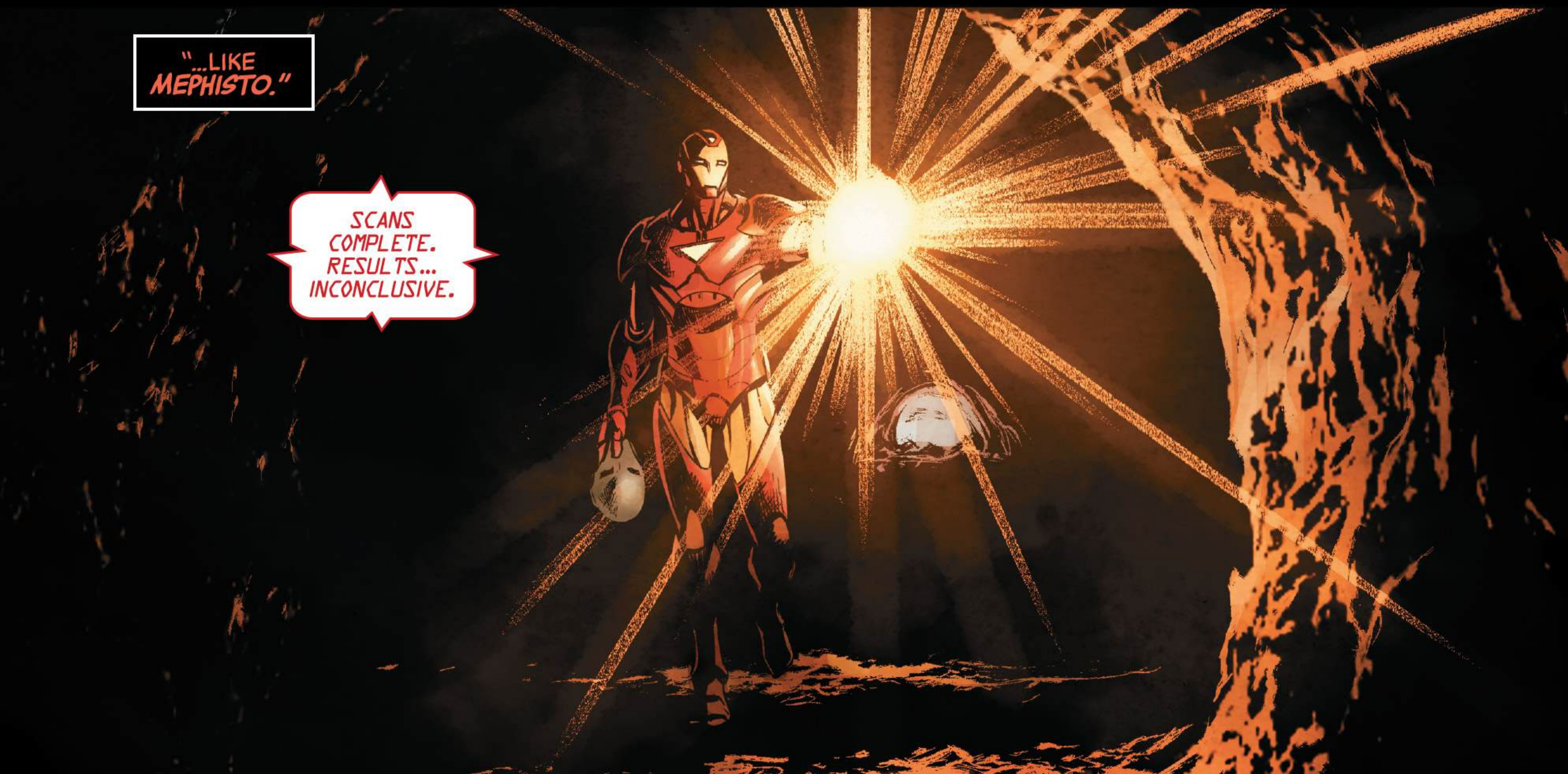
"THINK I'VE HAD
JUST ABOUT ENOUGH
OF THIS PLANET."



BACK TO
SPACE FOR OL'
FRANK. THERE'RE WAY
MORE INTERESTING
PEOPLE OUT THERE
FOR ME TO KILL.

AND NOT
NEARLY AS MANY
GHOST RIDERS.

AND IF YOU
ASK ME, THE WHOLE
STINKING EARTH
SMELLS WAY
TOO MUCH...



"...LIKE
MEPHISTO."

SCANS
COMPLETE.
RESULTS...
INCONCLUSIVE.



INCONCLUSIVE?

NO, THAT'S
NOT GOOD
ENOUGH.

I NEED TO KNOW WHY
I'M HOLDING A
FOSSILIZED VERSION
OF MY OWN HEAD FROM A
MILLION YEARS AGO, DUG
UP IN A CAVE IN TURKEY.

AND WHY MY GUTS TWIST
MORE INTO KNOTS EVERY
STEP I TAKE THROUGH
THIS PLACE.

SCAN THE ENTIRE CAVE
AGAIN ON EVERY KNOWN
ENERGY SPECTRUM.



WHAT ARE YOU
HIDING, YOU
HANDSOME
LITTLE DEVIL?

WARNING,
UNKNOWN
ENERGY SURGE
DETECTED.

WELL, THAT'S MORE
LIKE IT. ALL RIGHT,
TIME TO SHOW ME
WHAT YOU'RE--

REGE
MEPHISTO.



GAAAGH!

*Tony Stark's journal: It's been
at least six months since
the energy surge. Or magic
spell. Whatever it was.*





The season of harsh and brutal winter has given way to some sort of super winter.

Pretty sure that still won't keep the sabertooth tigers from prowling around my cave.



The repaired gauntlet died this morning. The armor's useless. I've scavenged everything I could from it.

It's a blood moon tonight. That means he'll be coming 'round again.

And I don't know how I can hold him off this time. Not with what little I have.

Rocks and ice. All I have are rocks and ice.



I'm Tony Stark, the smartest caveman in the world.

Smartest man in all of one million B.C.E.

But how do you fight the devil with rocks and ice?

**TO BE
CONTINUED...**

ALL-NEW GHOST RIDER 1



A STREET RACE LEADS YOUNG ROBBIE REYES ON THE ROAD TO DESTINY! AMID AN EAST LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD RUNNING WILD WITH GANG VIOLENCE AND DRUG TRAFFICKING, MARVEL'S NEWEST GHOST RIDER PUTS VENGEANCE IN OVERDRIVE!

FALL-NEW

Ghost Rider

00

« SMALL-BLOCK V8 CRATE ENGINE « 900-HP
« 5.7-LITER OHV « 2600 RPM STALL TORQUE CONVERTER
« TURBOHYDRAMATIC 400 THREE-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
« 0-60MPH 4.5 SEC
« MOPAR MADNESS



GO GO GO

THE GHOST RIDER.

DEAD OR ALIVE?

GOOD OR EVIL?

ANGEL OR **DEMON**?

FOR YEARS, A DARK VIGILANTE HAS WALKED THE LINE BETWEEN TWO WORLDS, HAUNTING THE DREAMS OF BAD GUYS EVERYWHERE, STARING INTO THEIR SOULS WITH FLAMING EYES OF **VENGEANCE**.

BUT THIS IS NOT THE GHOST RIDER YOU KNOW.

THIS IS THE TALE OF AN ORDINARY KID NAMED **ROBBIE REYES**, WHOSE LIFE IS ABOUT TO BECOME A **HELL** OF A LOT LESS ORDINARY.

GET IN.

LET'S RIDE.

CREATIVE TEAM

WRITER FELIPE SMITH

ARTIST TRADD MOORE

COLORIST NELSON DANIEL
& VAL STAPLES

LETTERER VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

PRODUCTION MANNY MEDEROS

COVER ARTISTS TRADD MOORE
& LAURA MARTIN

VARIANT COVERS FELIPE SMITH,
SCOTTIE YOUNG, MIKE DEL MUNDO

ASSISTANT EDITOR EMILY SHAW

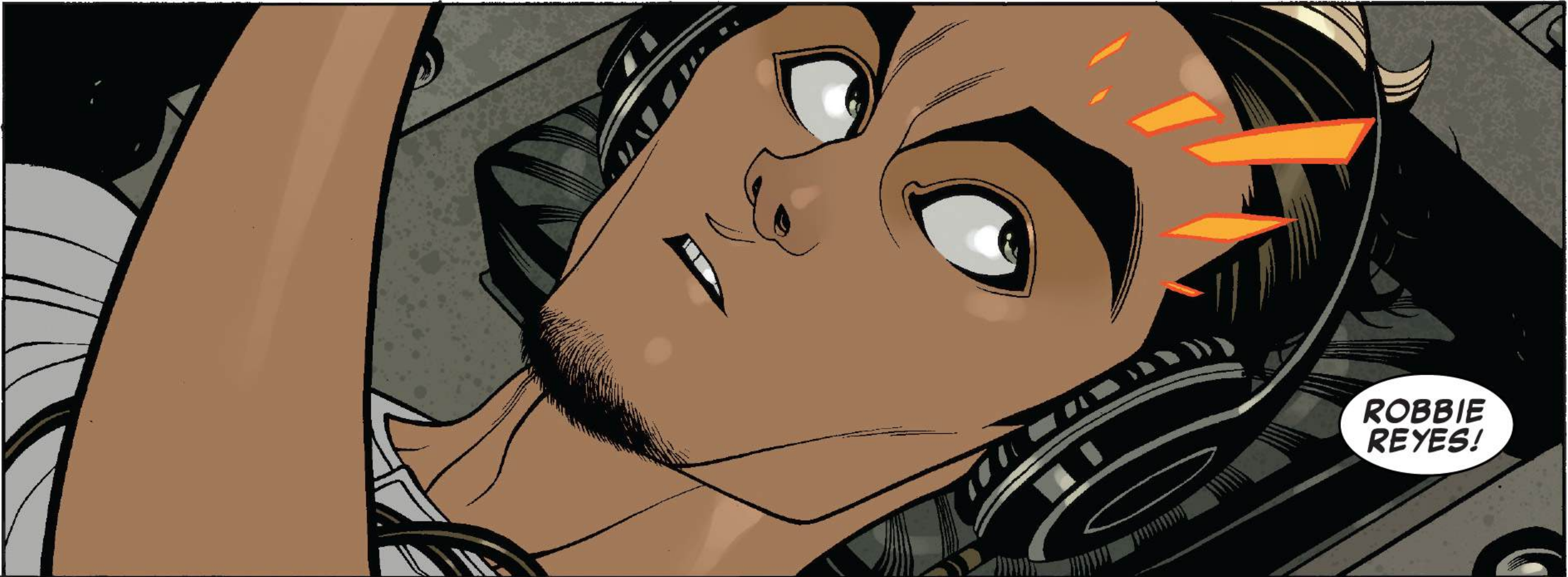
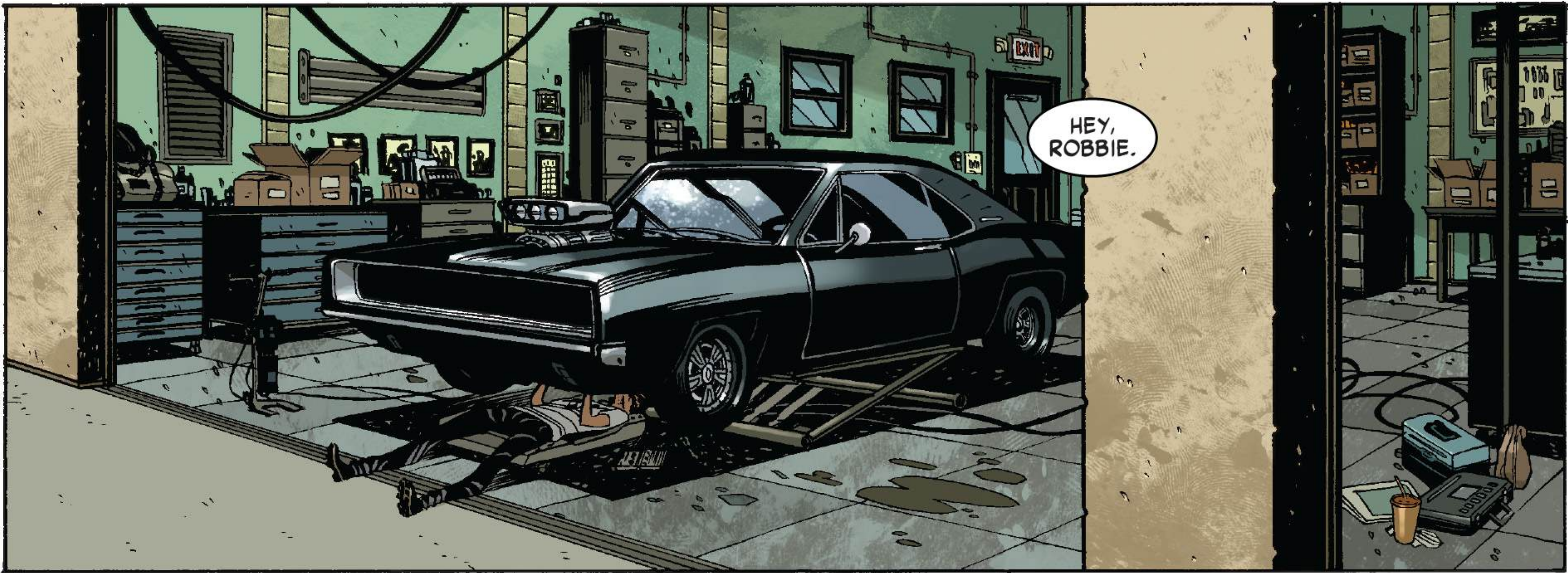
EDITOR MARK PANICCIA

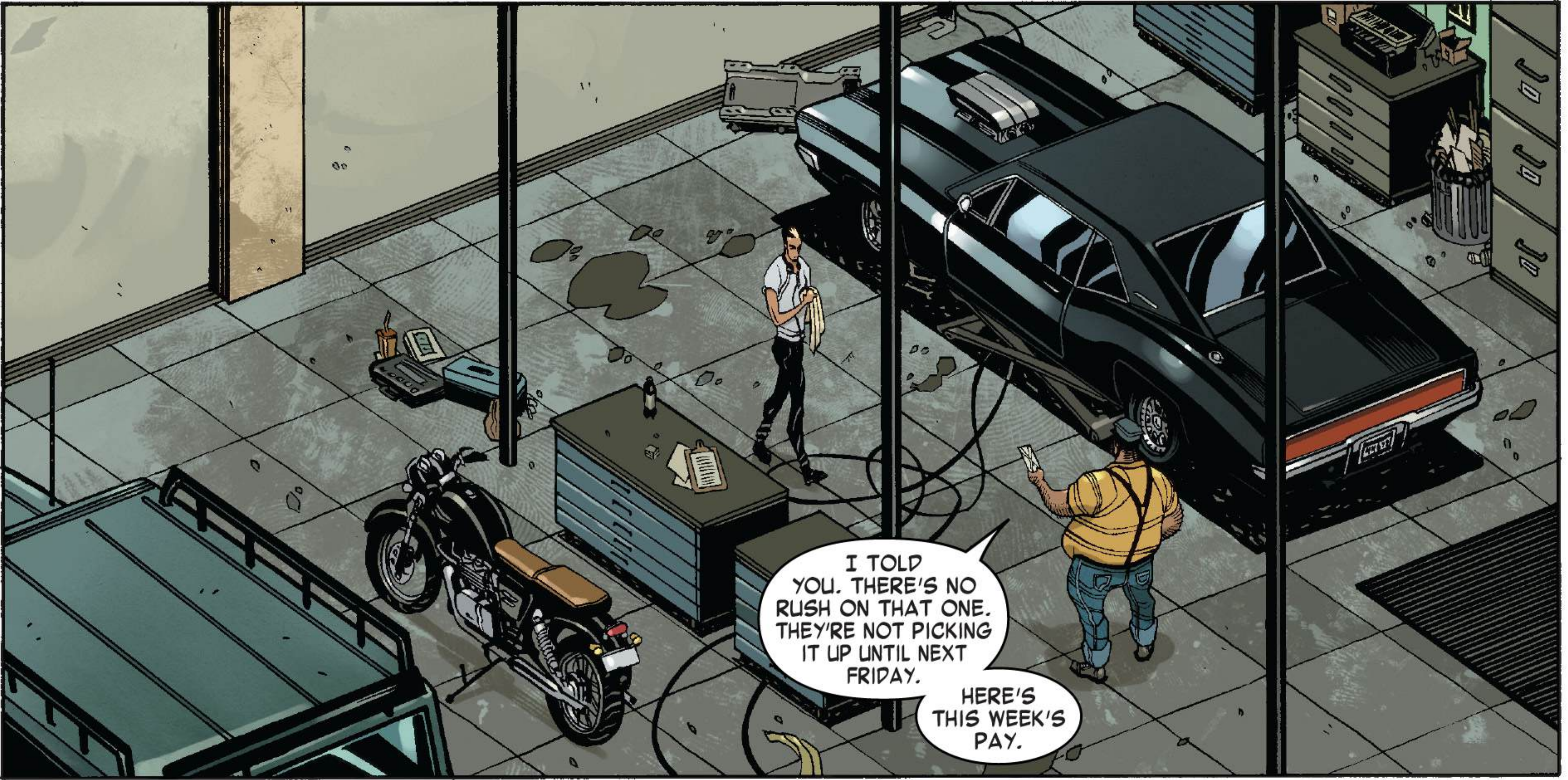
EDITOR IN CHIEF AXEL ALONSO

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER JOE QUESADA

PUBLISHER DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE

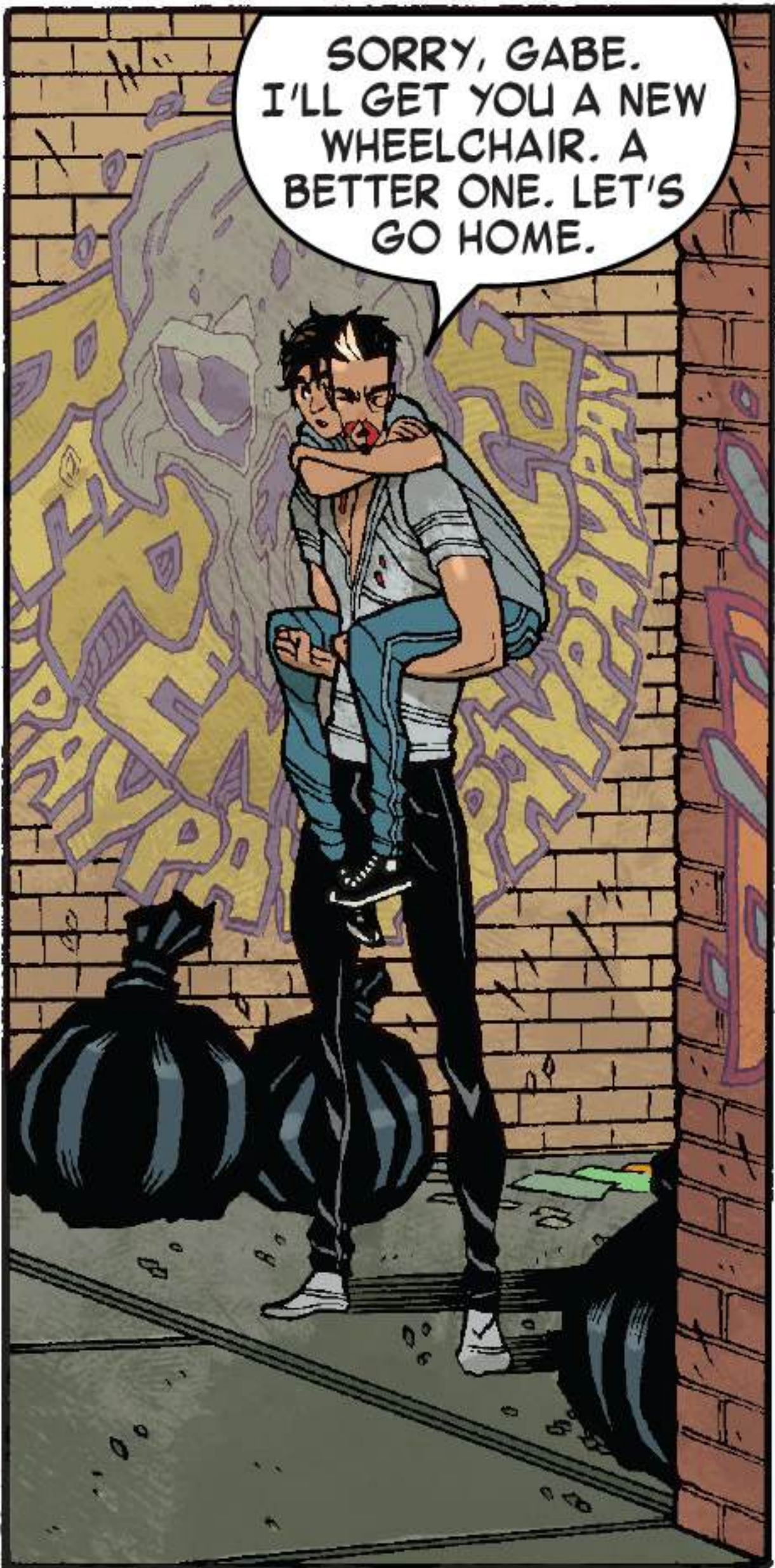


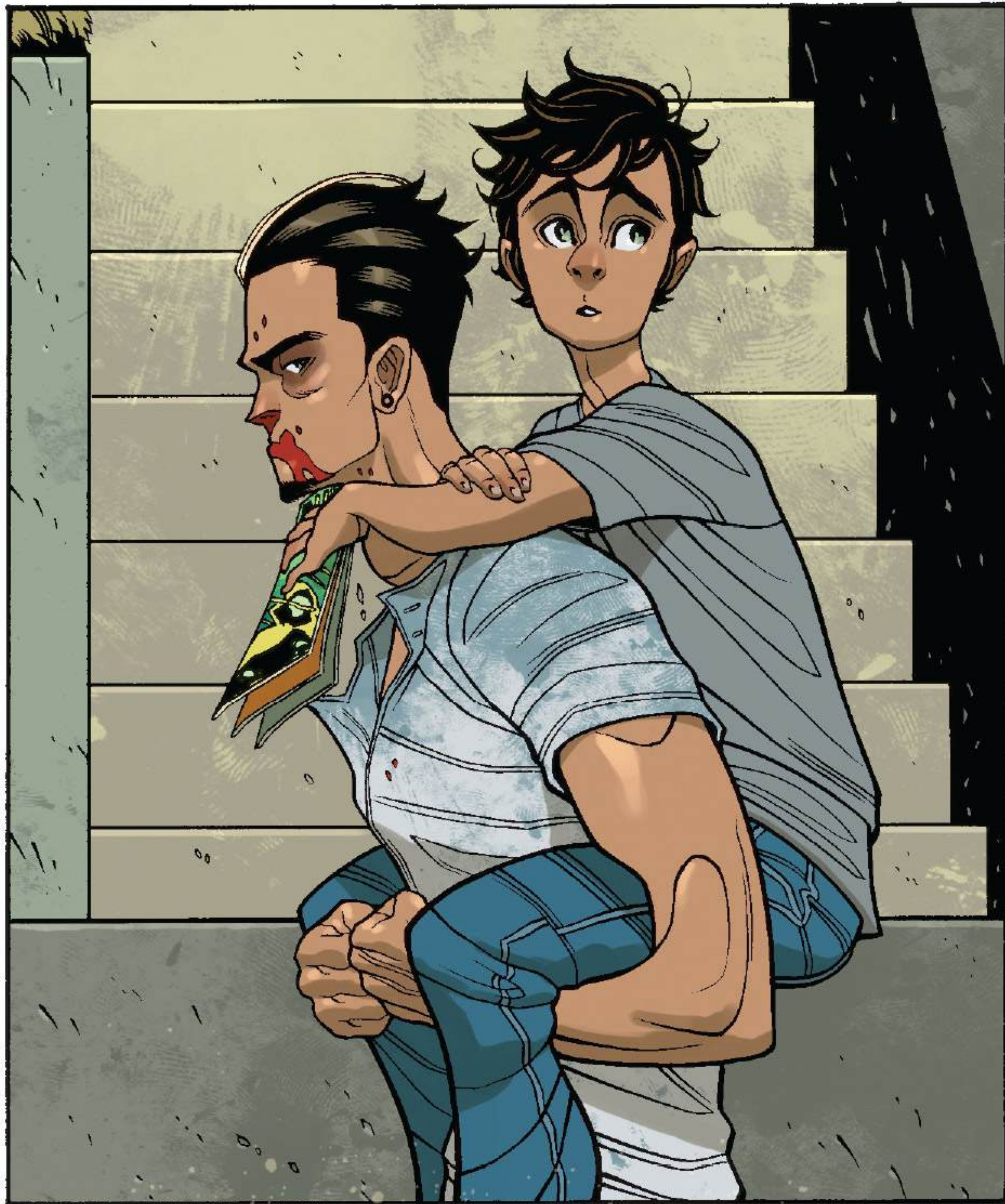


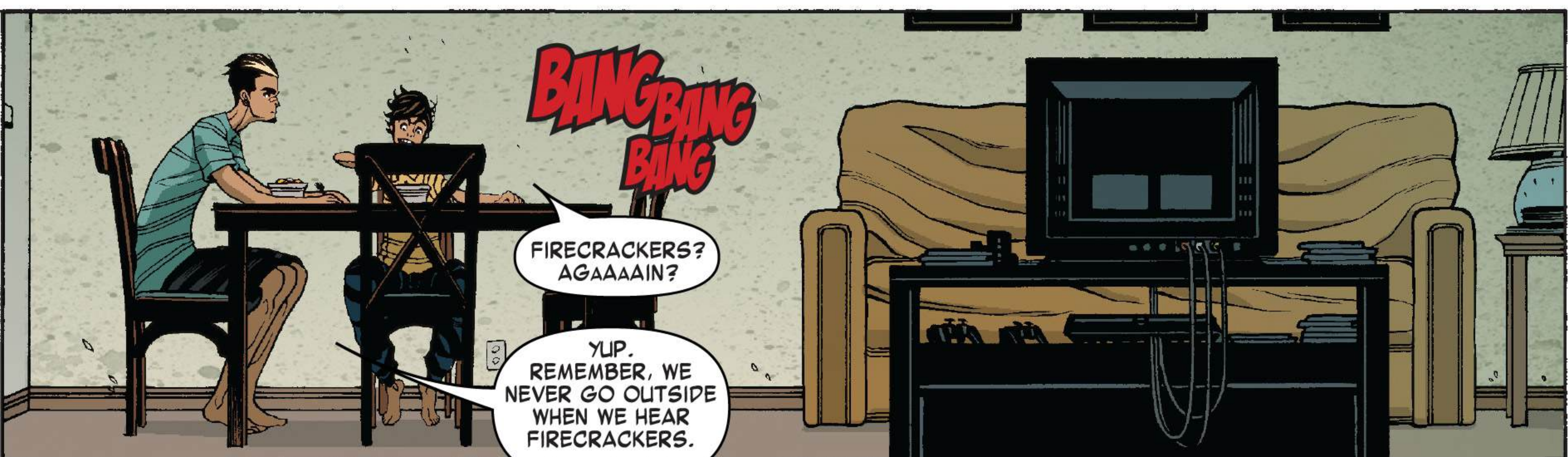
PATRICK WELLMAN
DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER.

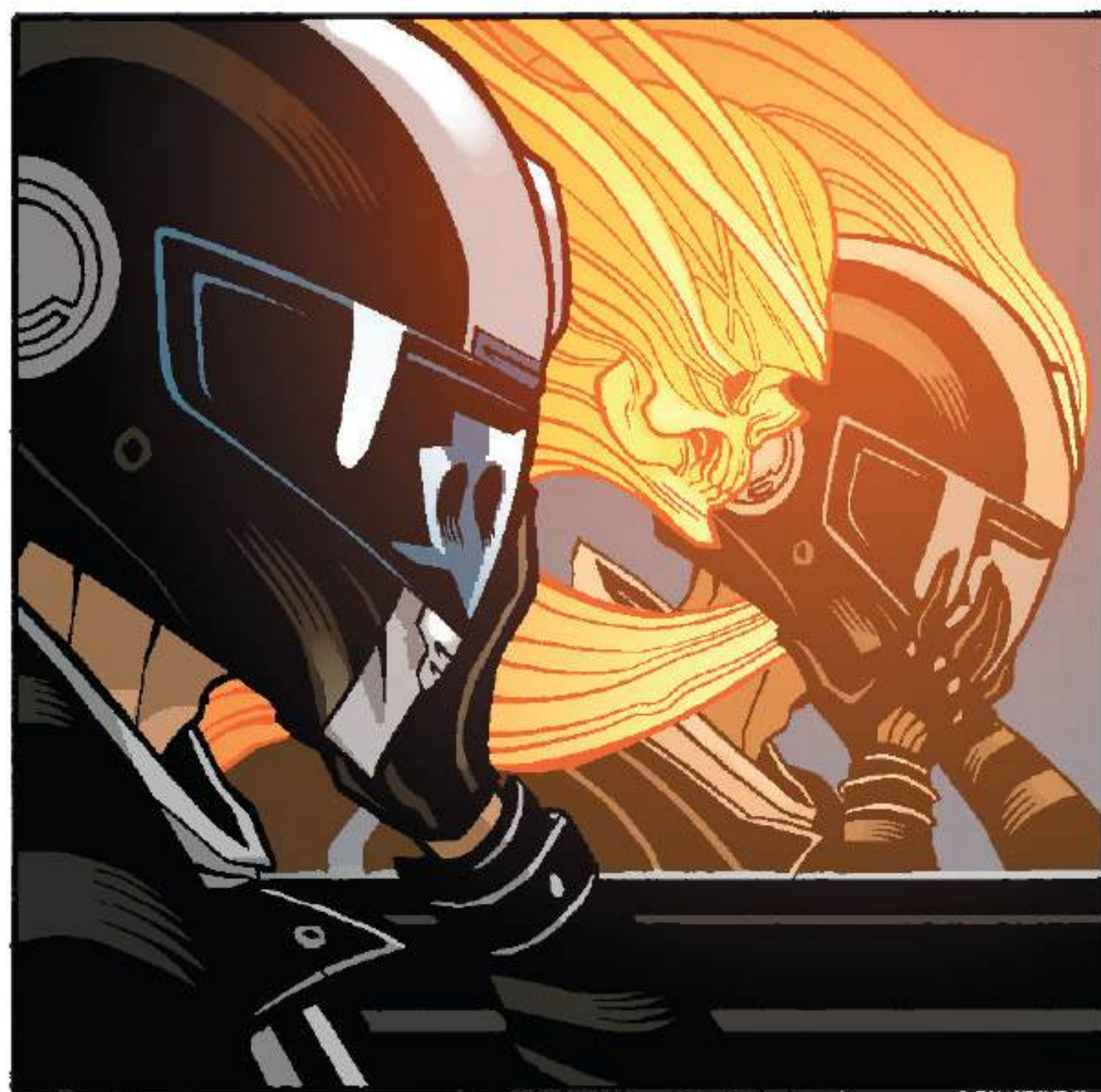
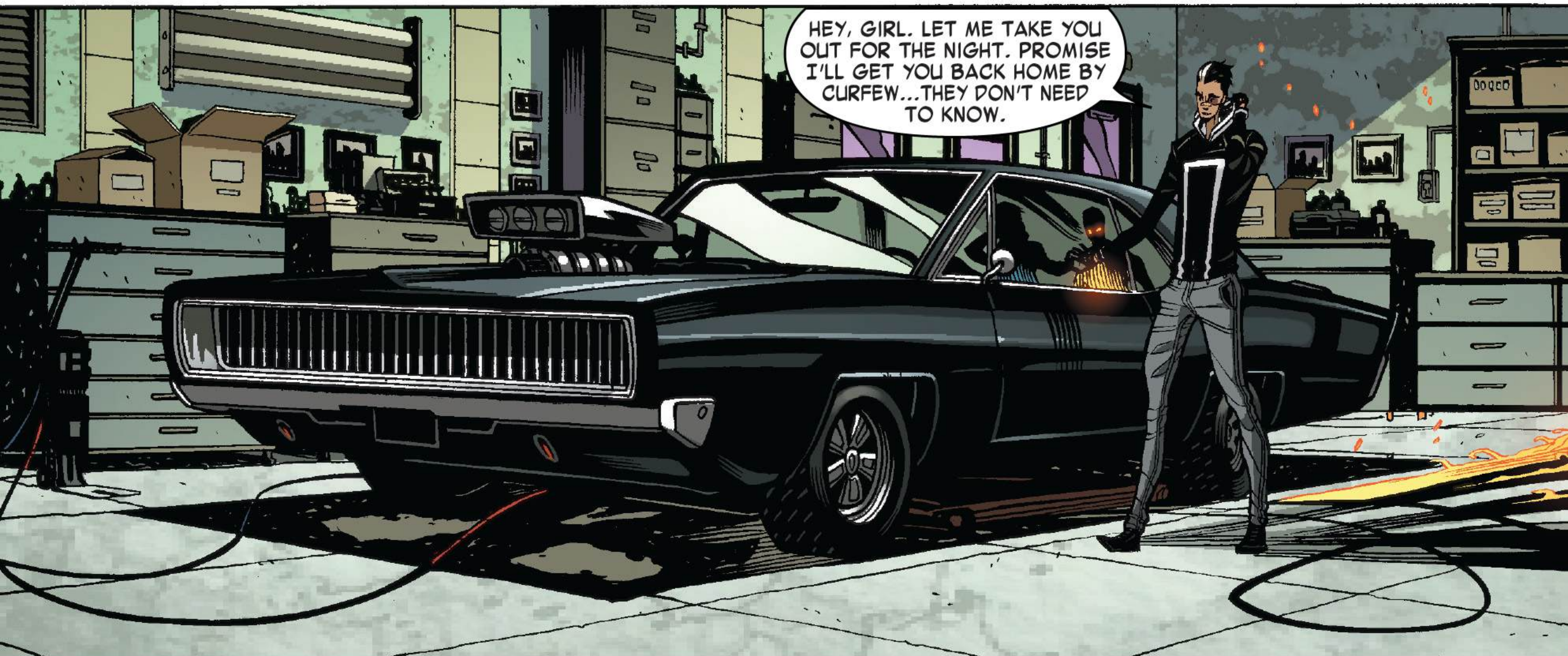


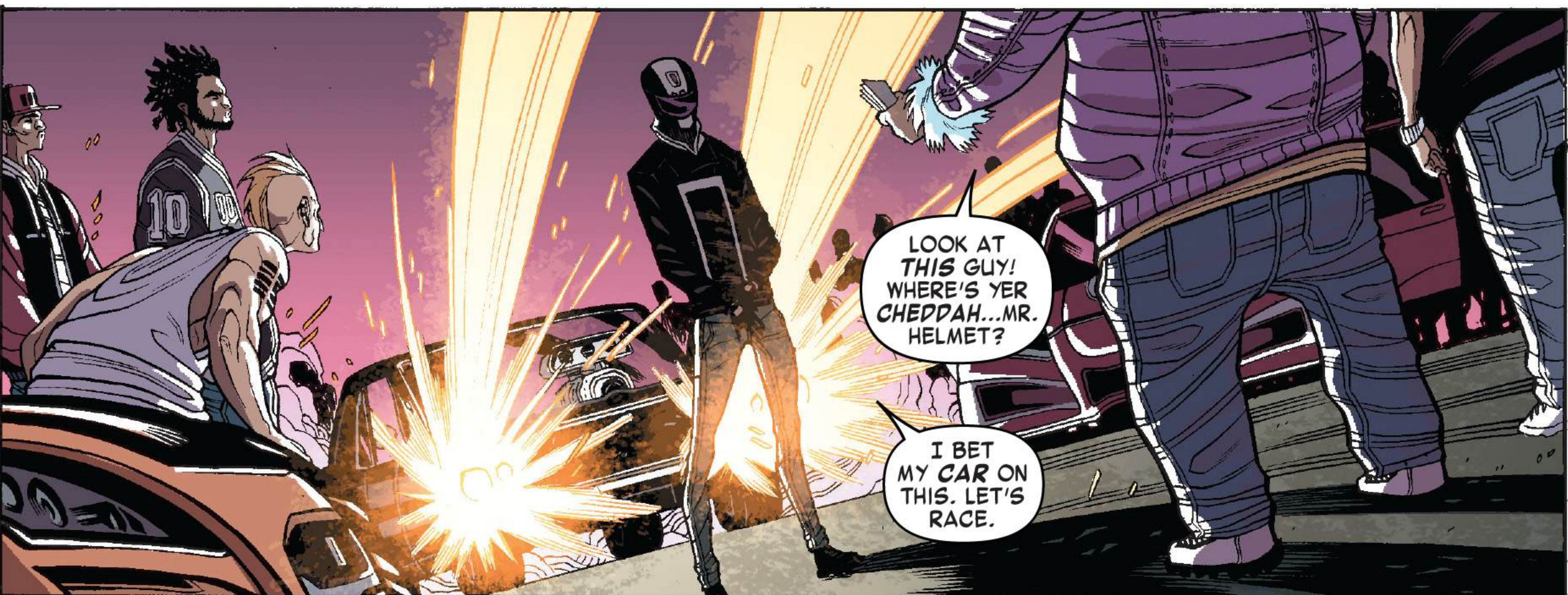
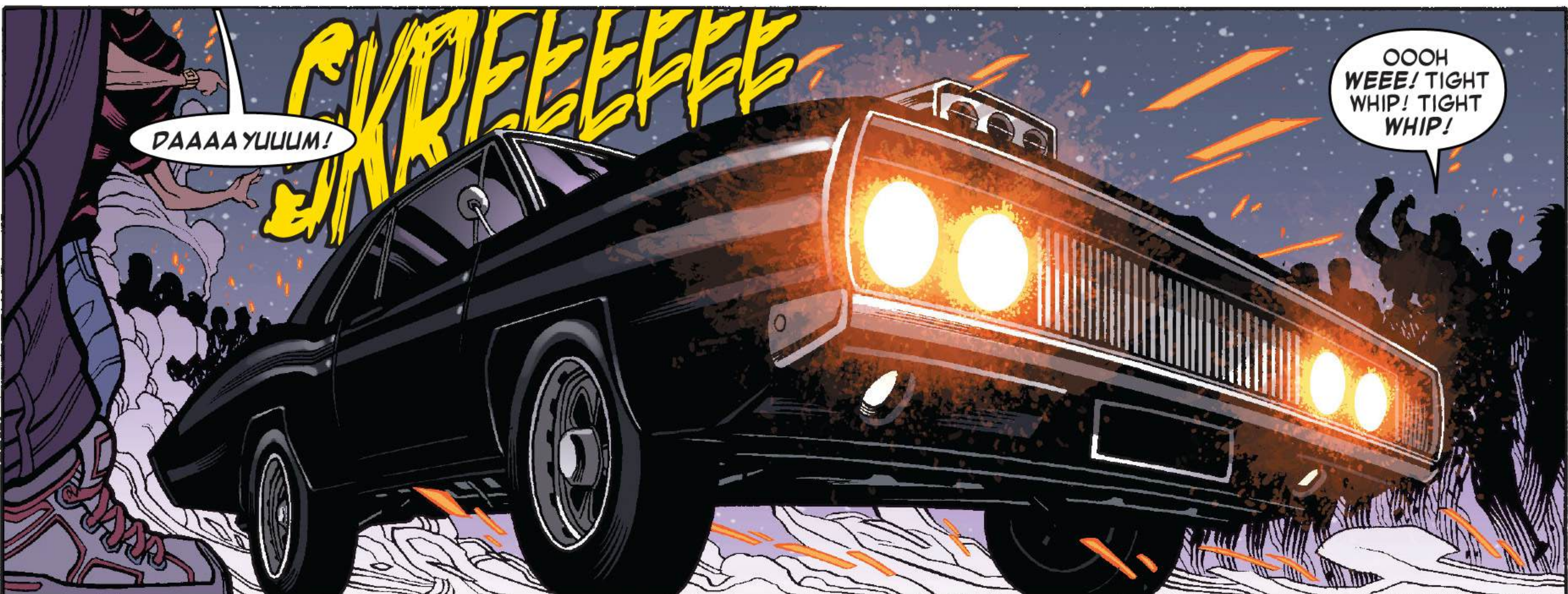


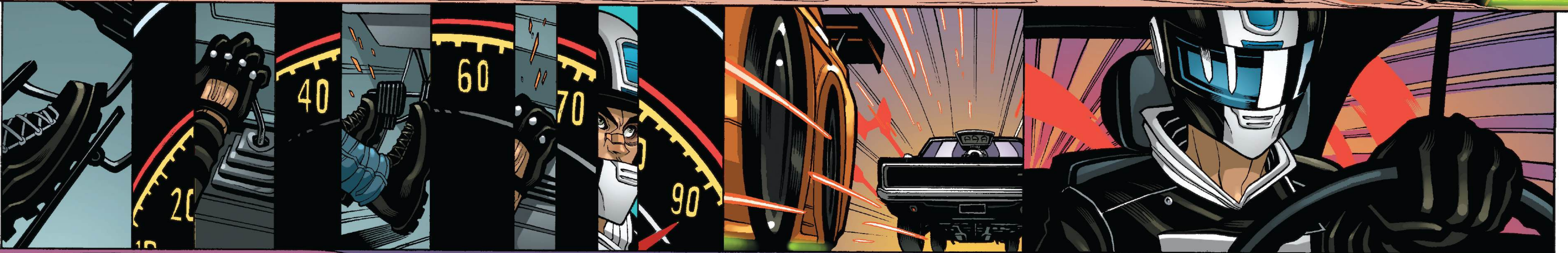
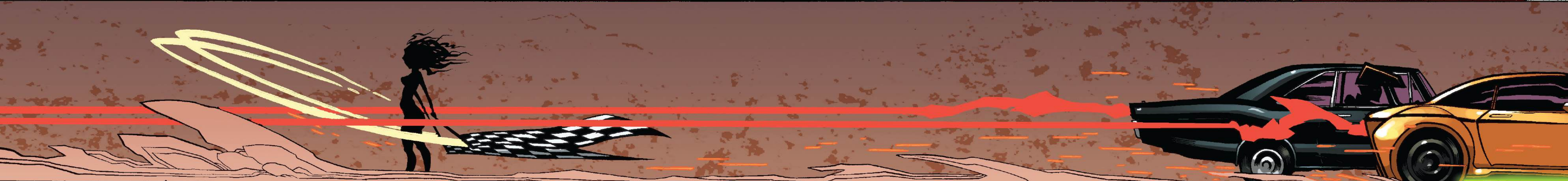
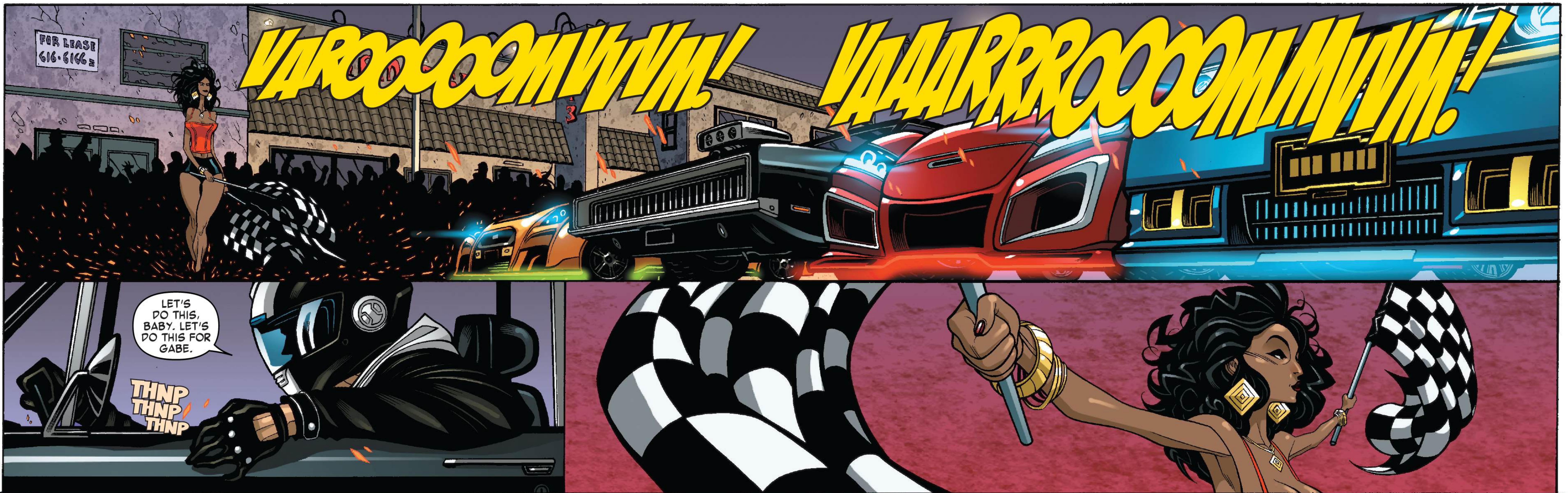




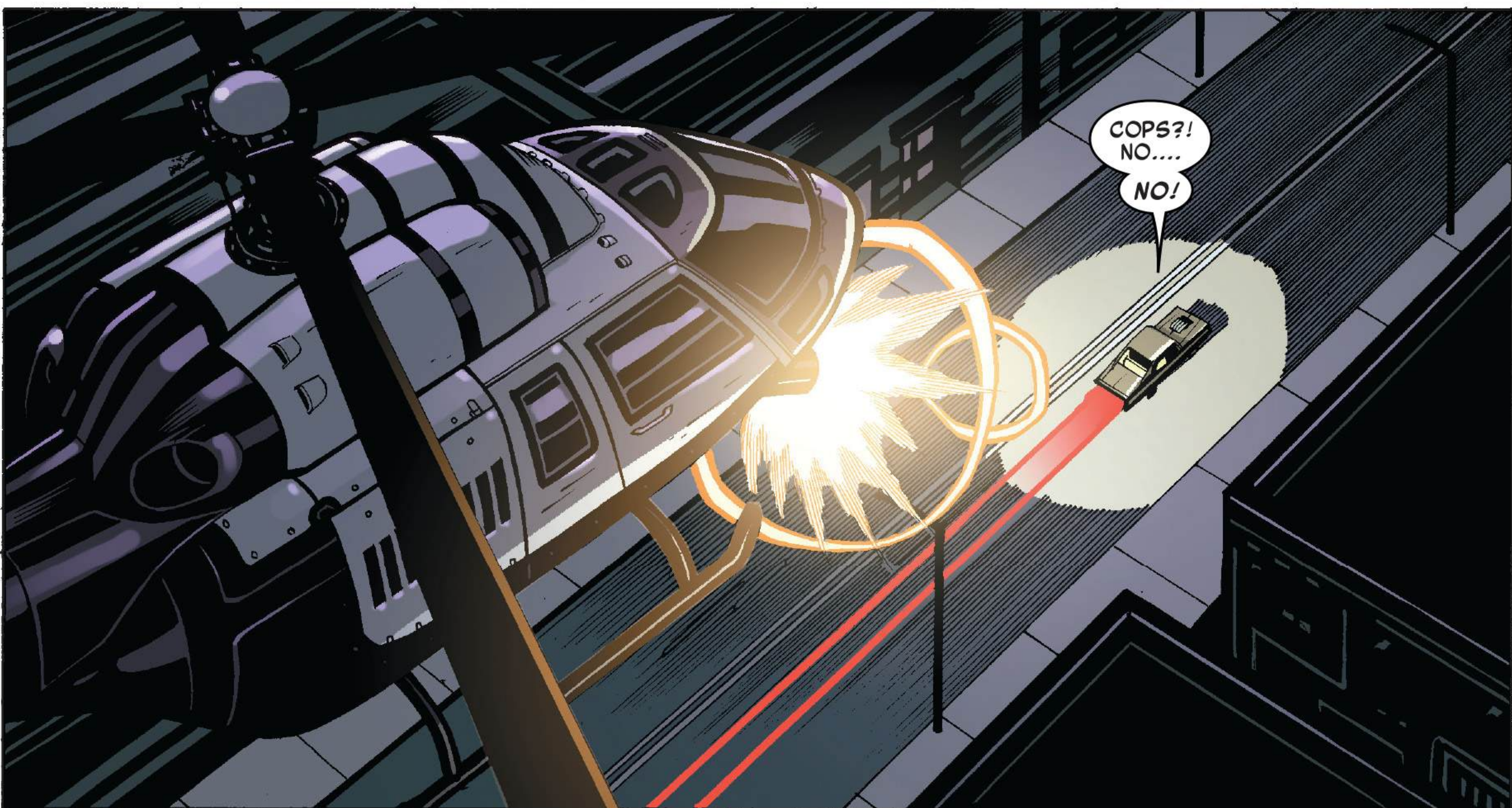
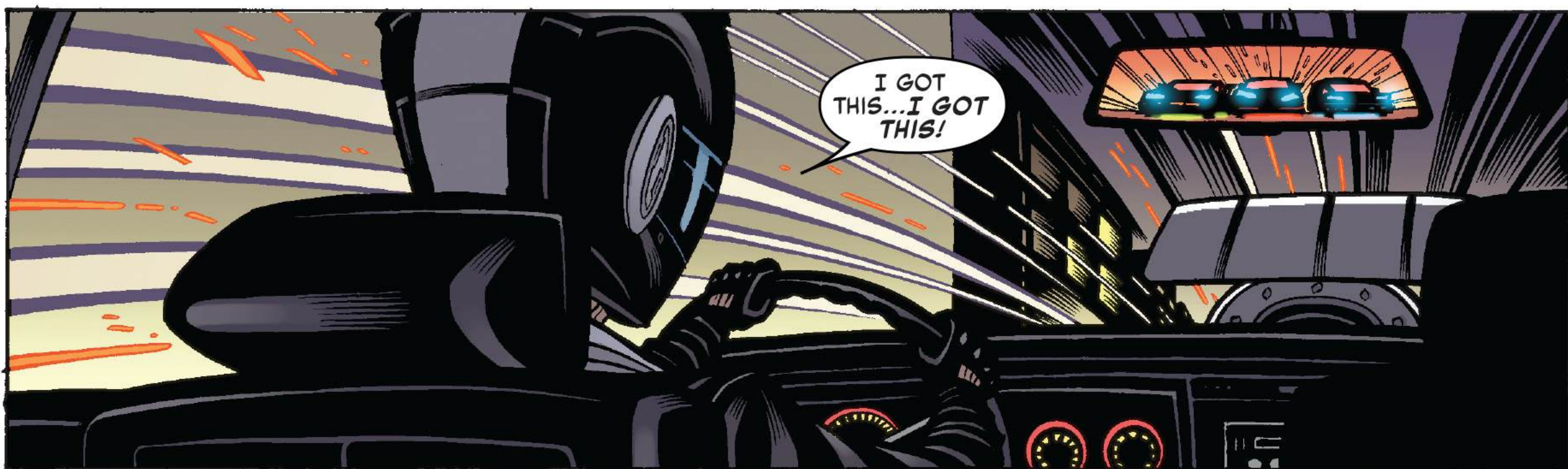
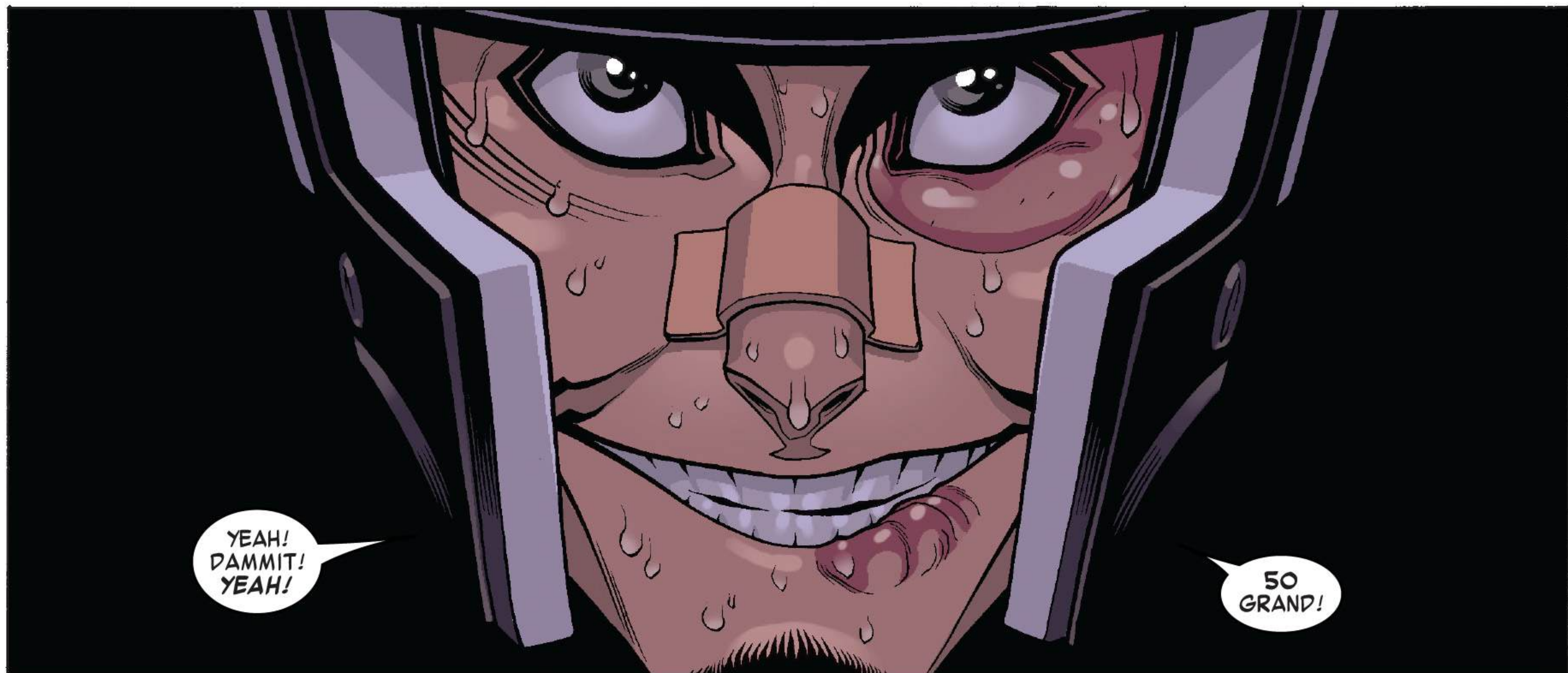




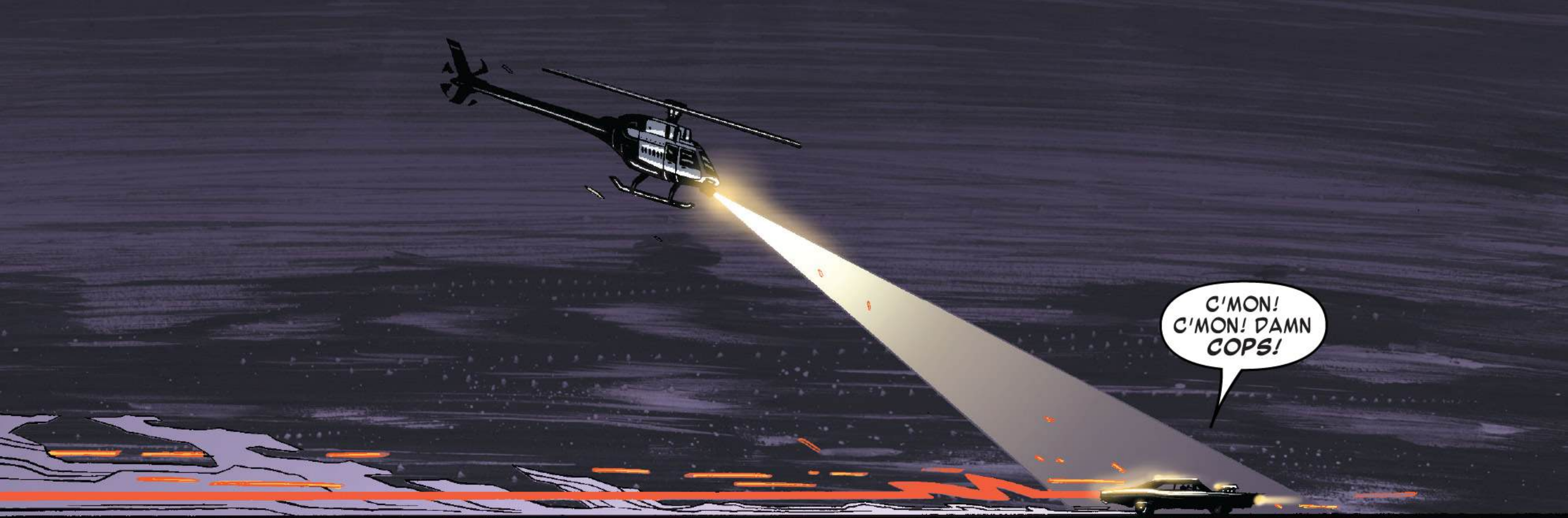




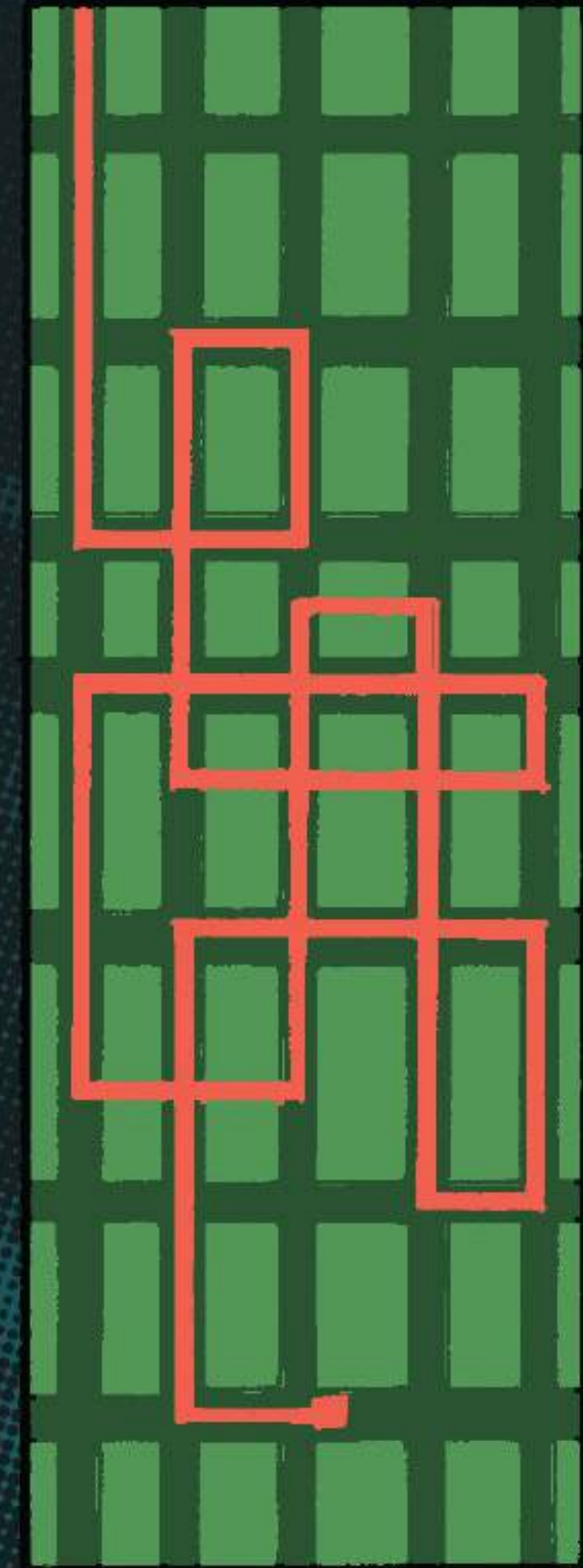
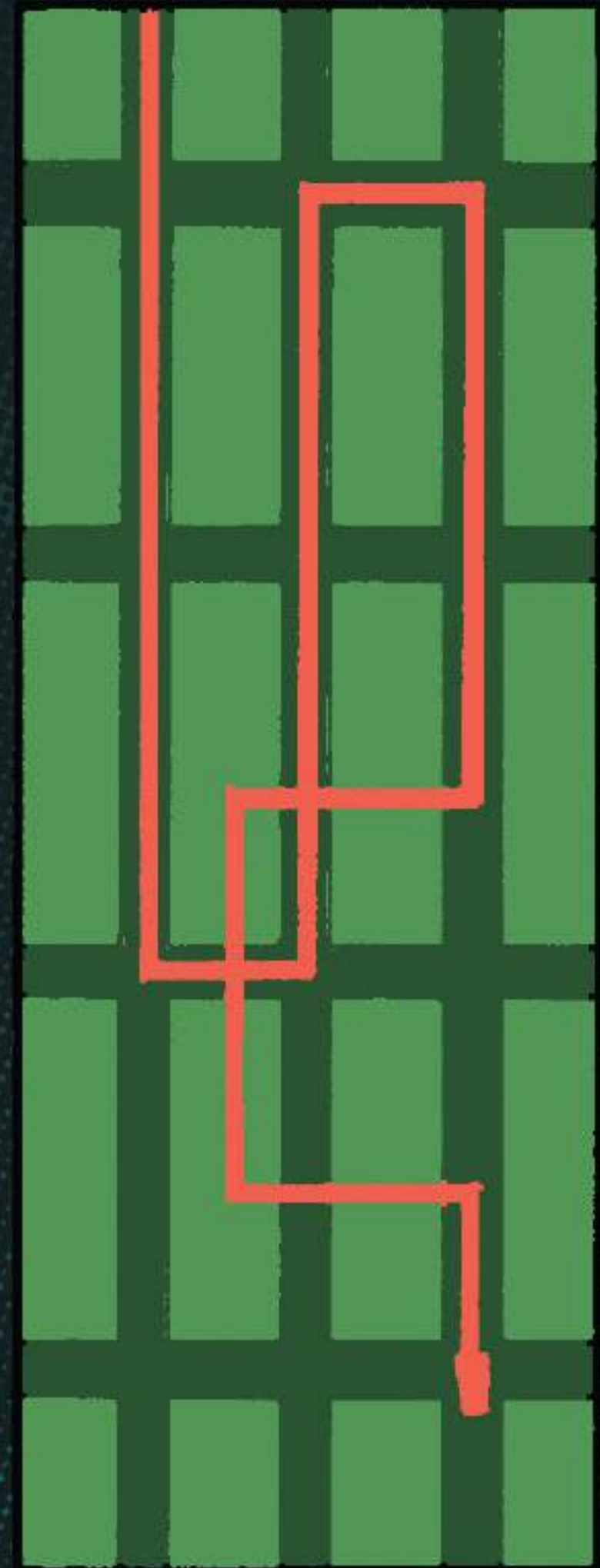
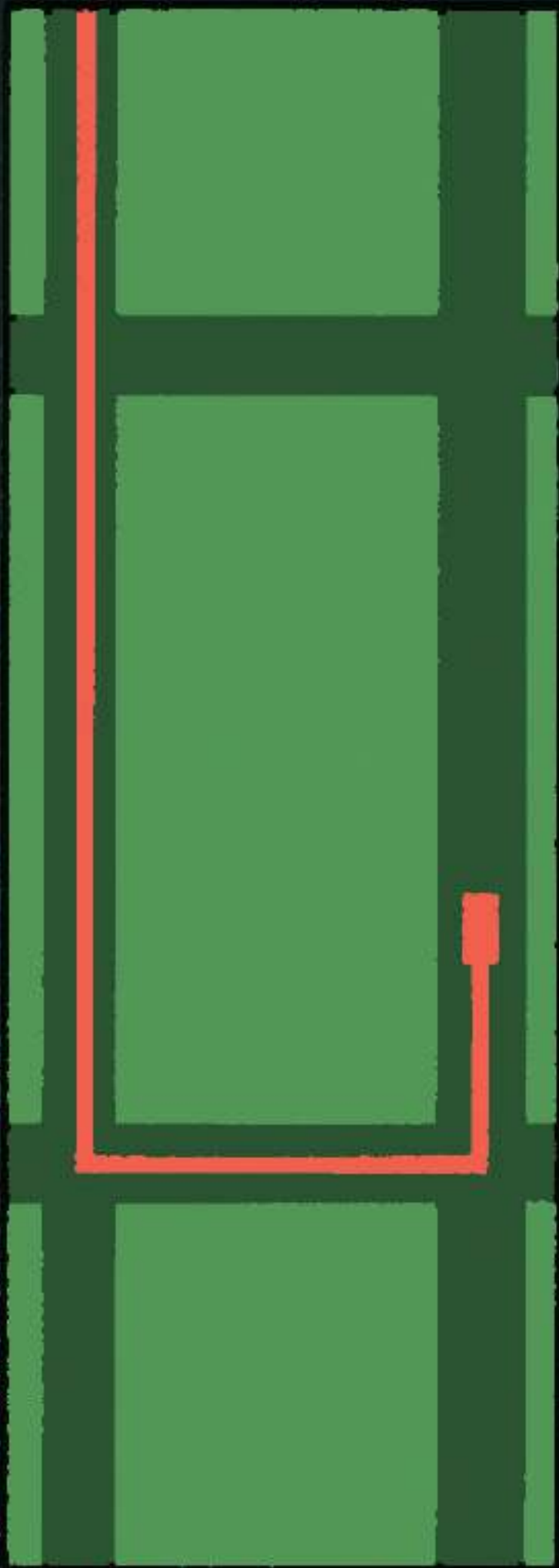
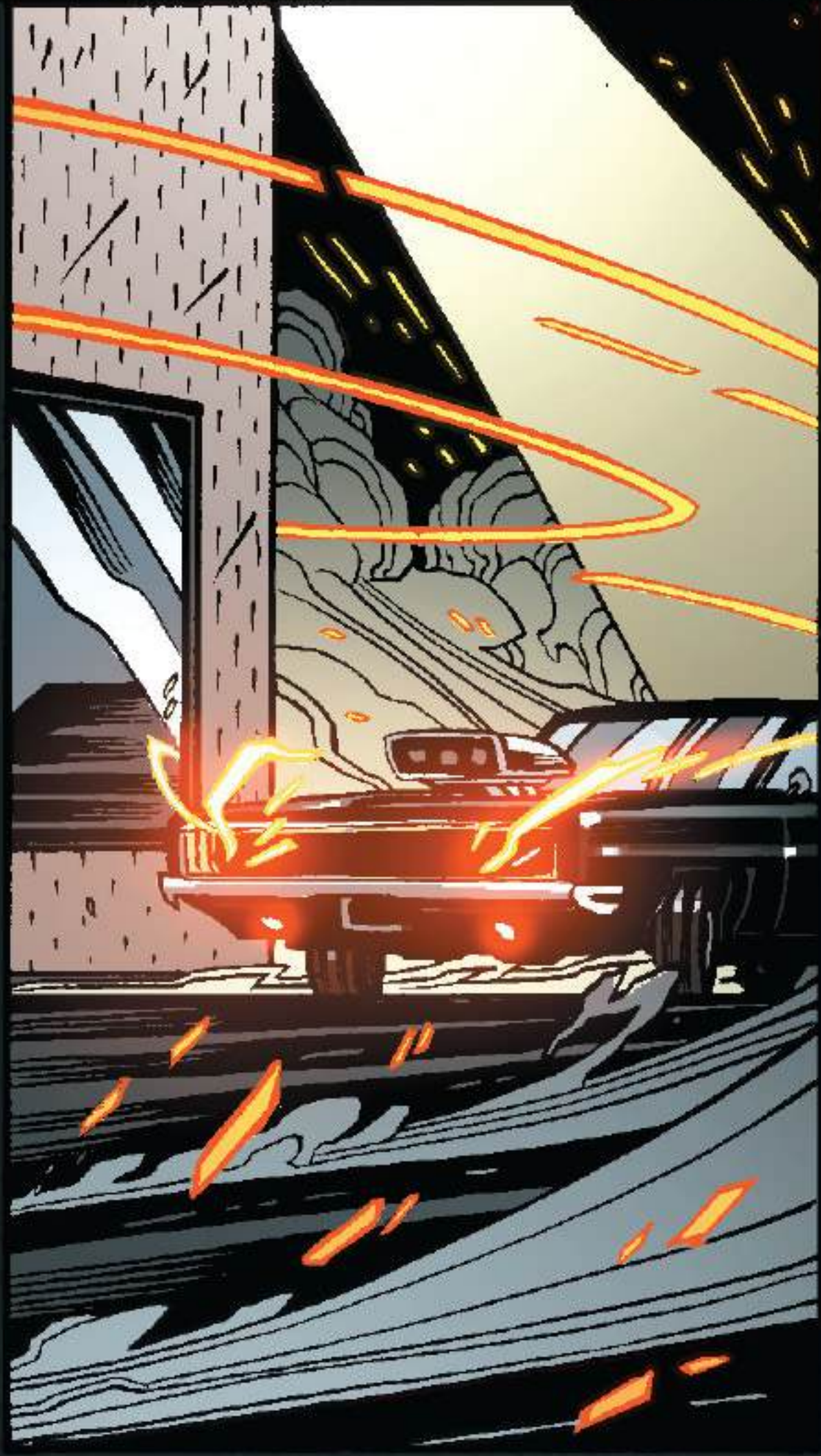


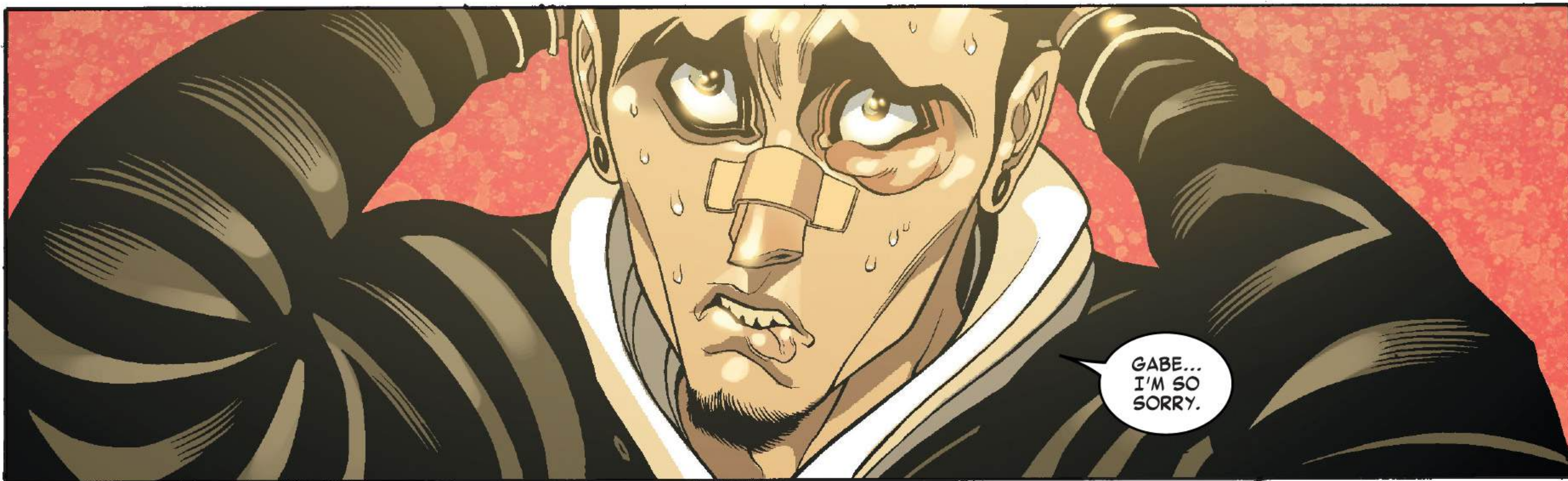


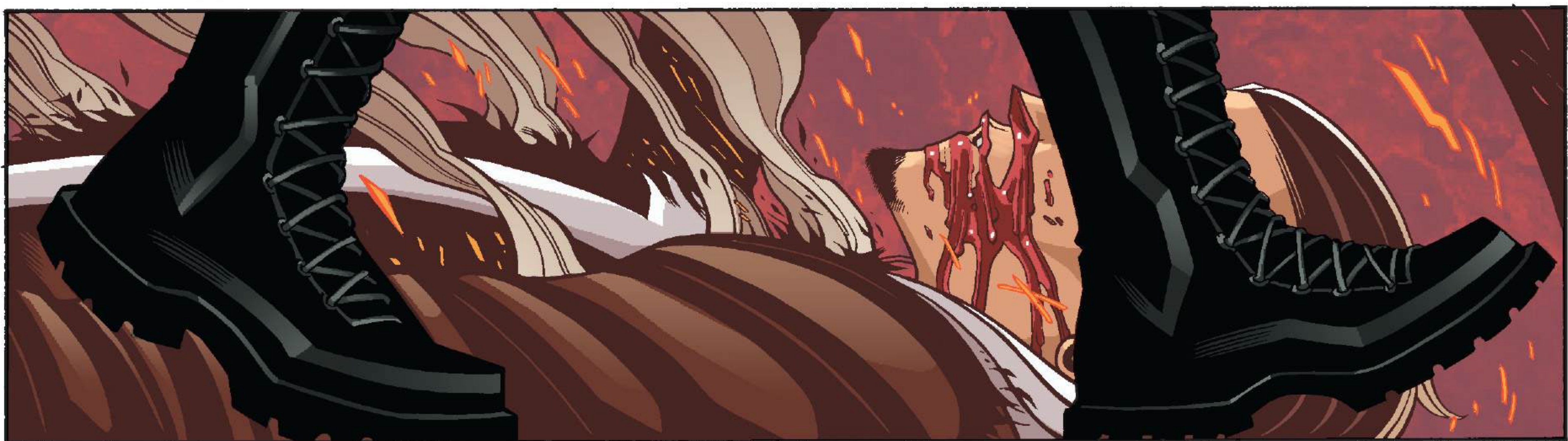


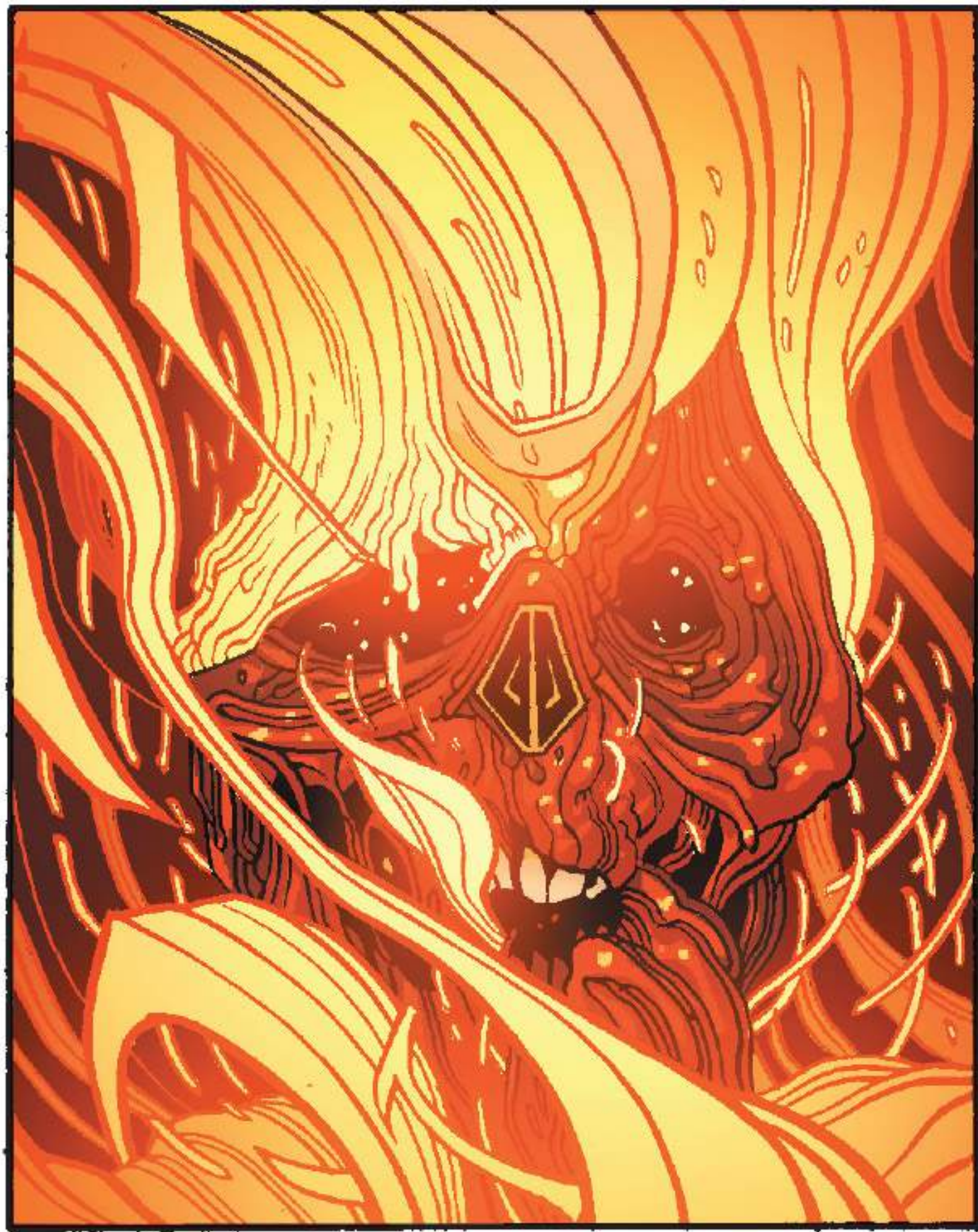
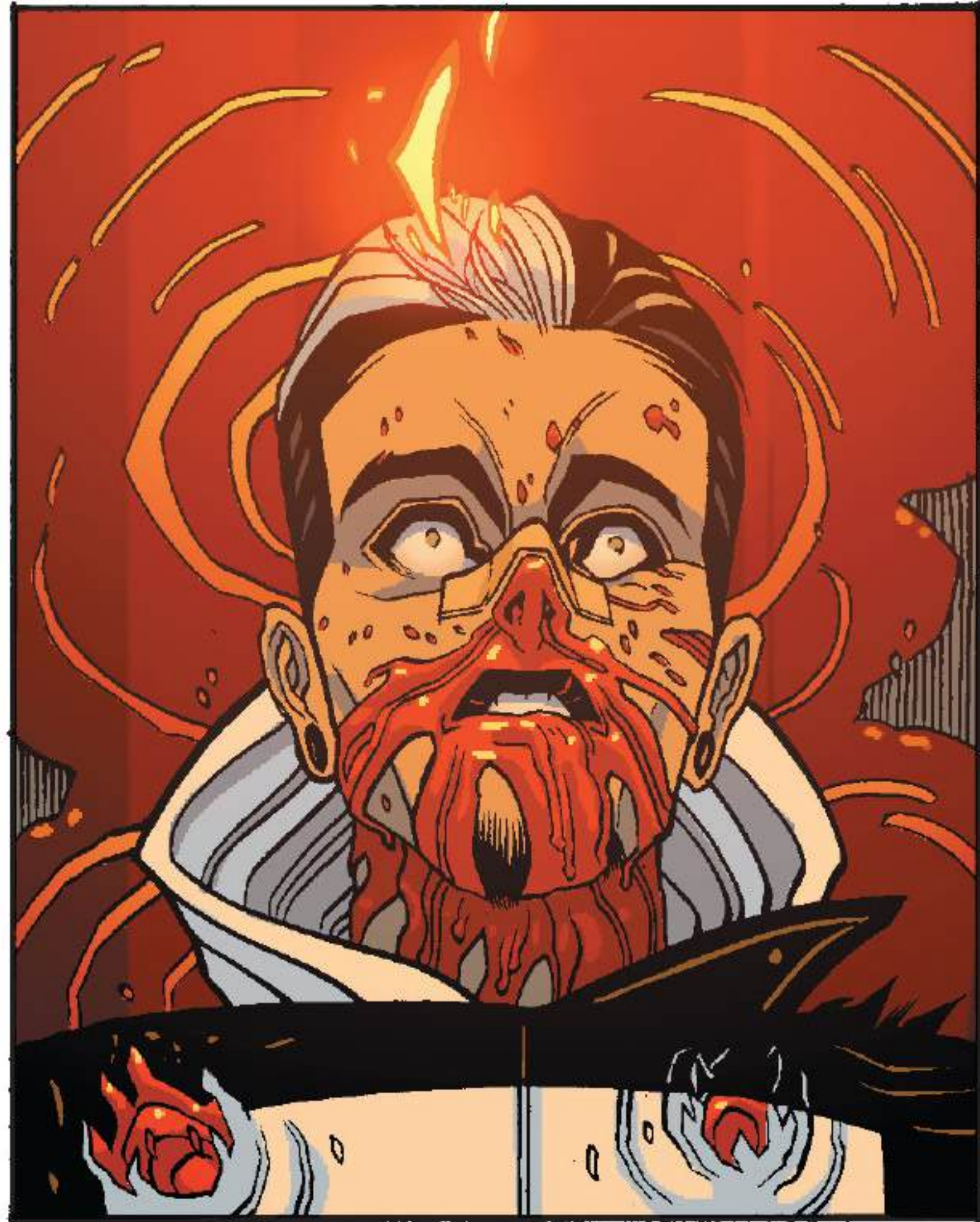
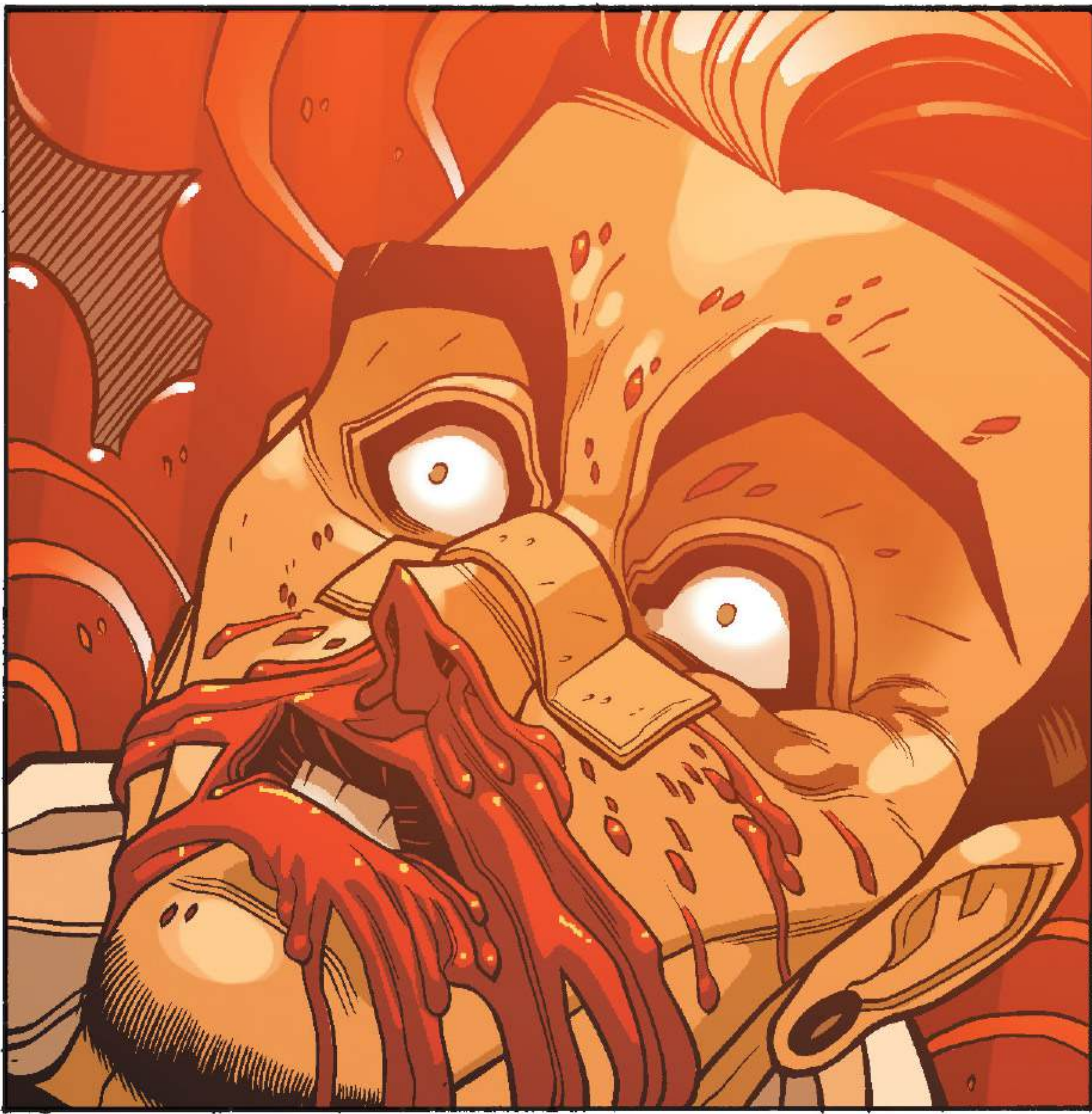


C'MON!
C'MON! DAMN
COPS!









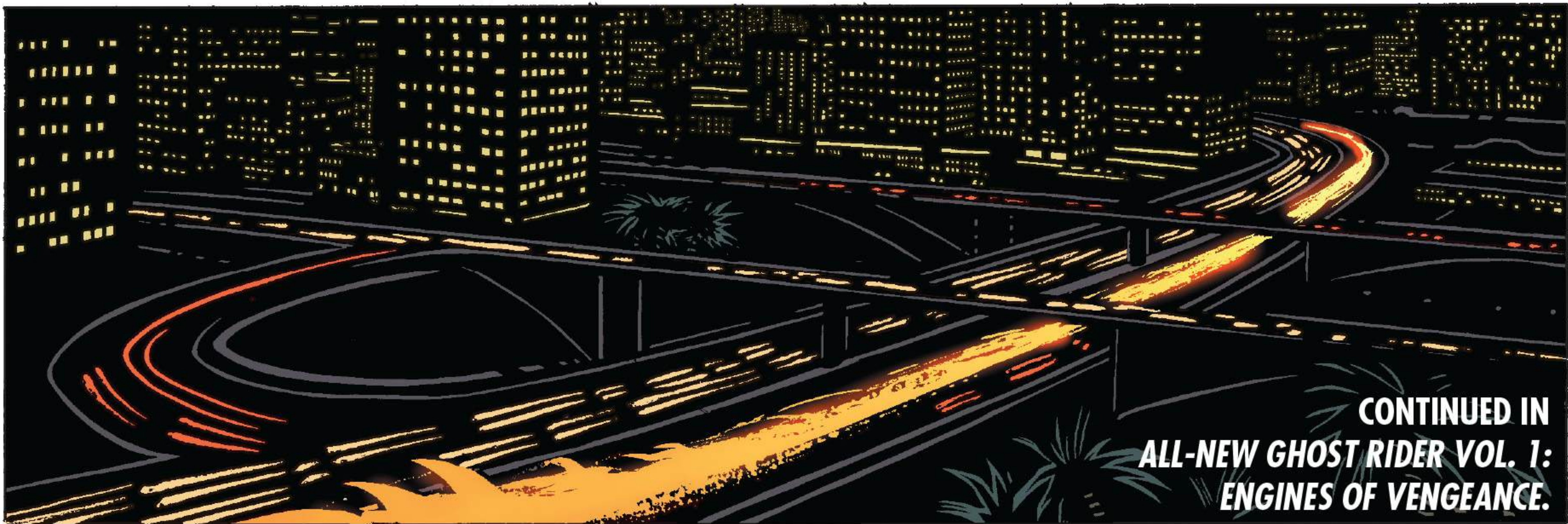
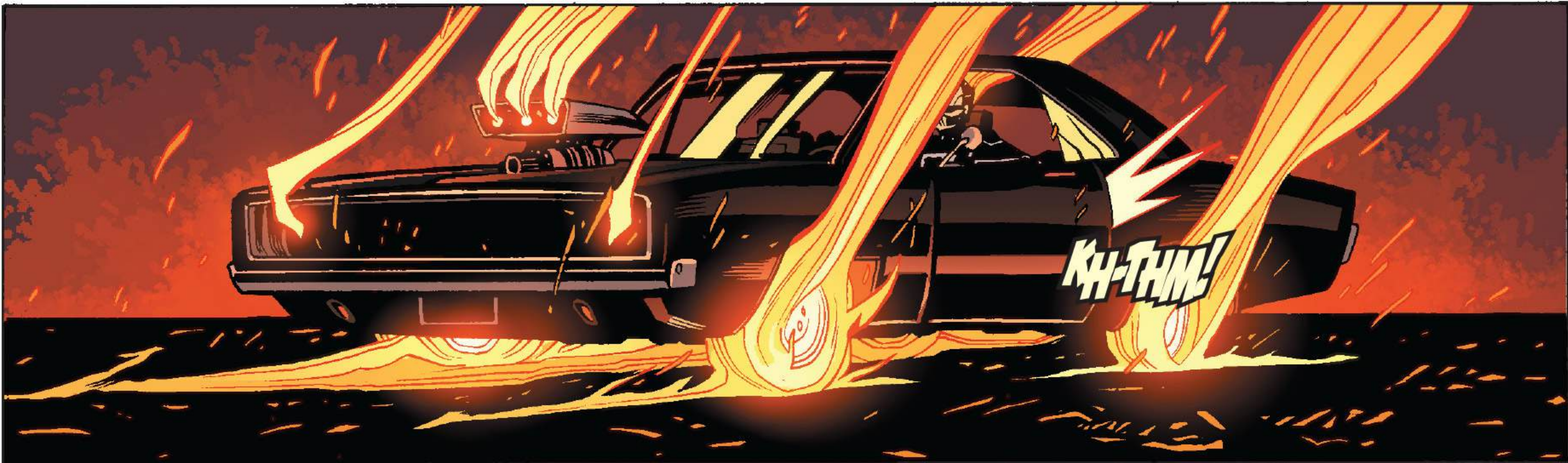


BOOM!

HNNNN

HGH

Hr



CONTINUED IN
ALL-NEW GHOST RIDER VOL. 1:
ENGINES OF VENGEANCE.



JUNGGEUN YOON
22 CARNAGE-IZED VARIANT



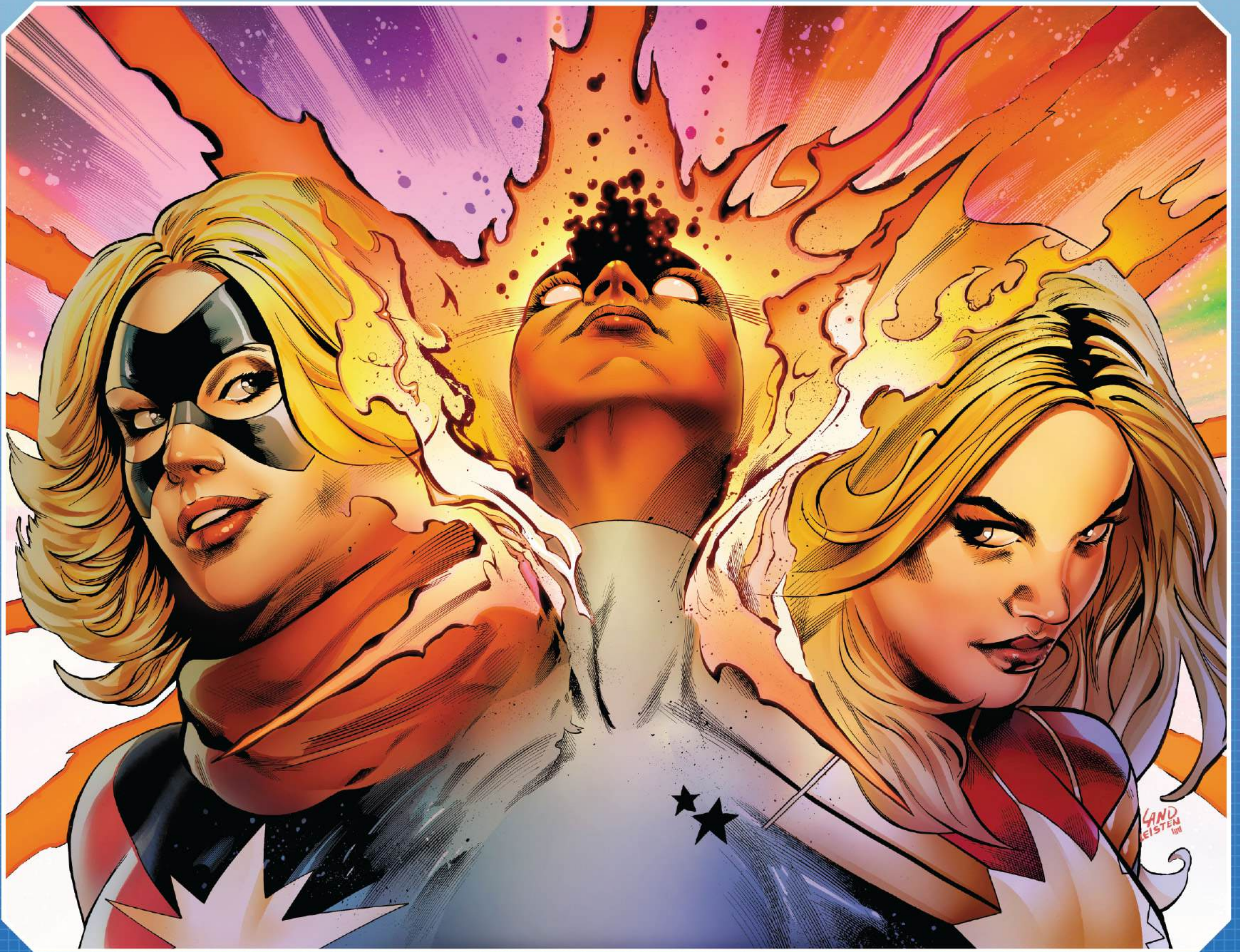
**MIKE MCKONE &
RACHELLE ROSENBERG**
23 VILLAIN VARIANT



ALEX ROSS
23 MARVELS 25TH ANNIVERSARY
VARIANT



ALEX ROSS
25 MARVELS 25TH ANNIVERSARY
VARIANT



GREG LAND, JAY LEISTEN & FRANK D'ARMATA
24 IMMORTAL VARIANT



JAY ANACLETO & ROMULO FAJARDO JR.
25 MARY JANE VARIANT

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GHOST RIDER vs. GHOST RIDER!

ROBBIE REYES FINALLY wants to get rid of the flame-headed monster lurking inside him, so it's time to do the common-sense thing: perform an exorcism on his car. The only problem is Johnny Blaze — the original Ghost Rider and current king of Hell — has plans of his own for Robbie! Now it's Blaze vs. Reyes in a wild race through the deepest depths of the underworld, while the Avengers fight for their lives against their own Celestial headquarters — now possessed by a murderous, Hell-damned soul! But even worse is to come, courtesy of the infamous Cosmic Ghost Rider! And to join the battle for the soul of Robbie Reyes, the Avengers must go to Hell! Plus: The savage origin of the first Starbrand — from one million B.C.E.!



COLLECTING **AVENGERS (2018) #22-25** — BY JASON AARON, STEFANO CASELLI,
LUCIANO VECCHIO, DALE KEOWN, JOE WEEMS, JASON KEITH AND ERICK ARCINIEGA
— PLUS **ALL-NEW GHOST RIDER (2014) #1**.

T+

MARVEL

v05 - Challenge Of The Ghost Riders Avengers by Jason Aaron <https://www.comixology.com/Avengers-by-Jason-Aaron/digital-comic/815538> Collects Avengers (2018) #22-25, All-New Ghost Rider (2014) #1. Ghost Rider vs. Ghost Rider! Robbie Reyes finally wants to get rid of the flame-headed monster lurking inside him, so it's time to do the common sense thing: perform an exorcism on his car. The only problem is Johnny Blaze — the original Ghost Rider and current king of Hell — has plans of his own for Robbie! Now it's Blaze vs. Reyes Scaped metadata from Comixology [CMXDB815538], [ASINB082Q7FPM7], [RELDATE:2020-01-29] Marvel Superhero 112 en Asgard-Empire 2020 3 Jason Aaron Dale Keown Stefano Caselli